

J 10/2/44 Tuesday

1. Council Meeting

2:00 P. M.

Fujii: This meeting was called especially to meet with Mr. Masajui Fujii, Executive Secretary of the Topaz Community Council.

M. F.: All center problems are the same. We'd like to work together and present a united front.

Our labor problem is our most serious problem. It is worse than here. It is most serious in the hospital, where work is eight hour work. A Koen-kai was started in January this year. The number was down to 14 three weeks ago. 8 registered nurse was reduced to 4. Workers quit because of poor treatment. We finally asked the head doctor to leave. This is the fourth time that a change was made. Thompson came around and didn't agree with us right away, and we now have a petition to make his vacation permanent.

Thompson was opposed to Koen-kaw giving money to doctors because they won't relocate.

3½ doctors
7 dentists

Dentists cut down to 6.

Optometrist - half-time

Ambulance driver cut down from 9 to 5.

Doi: We've got to have the 6-hour shift in the hospital.

Fujii: We asked for 6-12 and 9-4 and Rappaport seemed to be in favor of it. I made the hour overlap. It's difficult to change to 8 hours entirely.

Chikata: Everyone is now against Rappaport. People think that she goes around picking faults.

Fujii: I think she's sincere. She's willing to make some adjustment in the working hour.

Chikata: Is there any entertainment for the hospital?

M. F.: No.

Fujii: How much is the Koenkai paying.

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M. F.:

At present, for
lack of fund

Doctor	\$50	\$44	
Dentists	17.50 (Using own tool)		\$12.50
Pharmacist)			
Optometrist)	2.50	2.00	
R. N.)			
Etc.			
Nurs's Aide	1.00	1.00	

Rotation in each ward, including TB ward.

Chikata: How are dentists working.

M. F.: Regular hours. There are 6 chairs.

Fujii: How about the manpower commission?

M. F.: We've refused to cooperate. That's their problem, we told them. They refused to pay overtime in cash. We've got to get together on this. We're getting the new overtime now for January, February and March. You can get overtime in cash after 60 days. We're now asking for the old overtime.

Doi: We didn't figure up overtime here.

We don't suggest anything. We refused to touch relocation. We also refused to touch the munition depot deal. We have a meeting about twice a week. We try not to do anything that people don't like. There are 34 in the Council, one from each block. There is a block manager (\$19) to each block and a half time secretary (\$8). We are short of messhall workers.

We had trouble with leaking pipes. Because of that, work has been cut down.

We are short of able-bodied workers.

Rec Halls We fought for that last year. They cut off 1/3 of a rec hall and gave to each block.

We don't have good leaders left in C. A. now.

M.F.: It's poor farm land. They failed because of early frost for two years. People are opposed to the farm.

We're holding back on the manpower commission to get our overtime.

Doi: At the Central Service, boys work on Sunday, too.

M. F.: Judicial code. No chicken, only small birds. No unregistered dogs. Rabies injection done free at the hospital. We're strict about speeding. The I. S. pinches. They appear before the Judicial Commission. Second offense - fifty cents sometimes.

Fujii: Shiota kid attacked Ritsuji Akiyama. Since we don't have a code of law, I told Barrett that we wouldn't be able to handle this.

Chikata: 4 kids there. Teeth knocked out. Horse sicked on man.

M. F.: We are short of teachers. Teachers quit because students give them a bad time.

Fujii: Difference in living condition.

M. F. Higher ceiling. Sheetrock being handed out for partitioning. Calsimine given for painting. Floor lined with masonite. Light in front of each door. Mirror in front of each basin.

Used to get mop and broom anytime. We can still get buckets. There was a door mat distributed to each apartment.

Doi: Broom and mop head came in recently.

Others: We should get it.

M. F.: Food used to be good. Have been short of vegetable recently. You have good milk here.

You don't have any electric fan here. We have them.

Clothing allowance is about two months late.

How about glasses? Can you get it free?

Mayeno: I understand it's difficult to get. The hospital has to certify the necessity.

M. F.: How about false teeth?

Chikata: The order has not come in. It would be free if the supply came in. I don't see why the dentists don't get the supply.

M. F.: We asked Thompson. He admitted that false teeth would be free if the machinery were available.

Fujii: We should check up on the order of the dentists.

M. F.: Funeral. "Urn" is made of cardboard. That should be made of metal, and we are negotiating on that point.

C. A.: We should have a budget (\$75) but I don't know what became of it. We don't have a community fund yet.

Test Case

Fujii: Very few good case from Washington and Oregon. You can't have a drive for fund without a good case.

M. F.: ACLU is going \$200 into debt. They will help on test cases, but they need help. We feel that we should help as much as possible.

Fujii: Gives excuses.

JS: This place is highly anti-JACL because of their experience in Puyallup. Since the JACL has touched test cases, it's difficult to announce this to the residents.

Doi & Chikata: The anti-JACL feeling is strong even among Niseis.

M. F.: M. P. is only about 16 in number. Why did they turn the charter down.

JS: Explains.

Fujii: This place was run smoothly at first. We probably owed it to Schafer.

Doi: He was able to tell the keto what to do. Even Stafford can't do that.

Fujii: He was good at settling trouble.

M. F.: They tried to close up half-blocks, but the residents opposed it.

Doi: We'd better oppose it.

Community Fund Drive

Osawa: I'd like an approval for the Community Fund Drive. On the outside they call it a War Fund Drive. The fund will include money from A. P.'s too. 40% to be retained in here.

2. Domestic Service Issue

Talked to Urakawa, Executive Secretary of the Co-op, about the domestic service issue after the ball game. He said that the Board discussed the matter but didn't want to take the responsibility for arriving at a decision. It decided to refer the matter to a congress of delegates and have them refer it to members.

I told him that Huberman did not like the idea of his having written to the Treasury Department about the tax exempt status when Barrett had assured him that the tax exempt status of the Co-op would not change. Urakawa said that Barrett's answer merely stated that the tax exempt status on the amount placed in the student aid fund would not change, and really did not answer his question. What he desired to find out was whether the tax exempt status of the whole Co-op would be affected by what he termed a "change in structure".

3. Block Clerk

Mr. Hata, the B. C. and I discussed the matter of getting a block clerk sometime ago. He thought it was best to let the matter go for awhile because touching it meant asking the block manager to stay on.

Several days ago, the Block Manager announced that he was quitting his job and therefore wanted the residents to come for their mail. He also remarked to Shibata, the janitor, that Hata-san wasn't doing anything about the block clerk for the block. Evidently, he was concerned. Shibata-san, however, was angry at the Block Manager. Three loads of firewood came to the block, but the Block Manager sent all but one away. A few persons, including the Block Manager, had divided up the firewood before the other residents had an opportunity to get any.

In the evening of September 30, I discussed this matter with the B. C. We decided that practically no one in the block liked the Block Manager and that if he stayed on it would make it difficult to work in the best interest of the residents. The B. C. didn't want to ask him to stay on. I told him to let the matter go, and later put someone else in. The B. C. said that he had Mr. Tanagi, a parolee, in mind.

Last night, the B. C. reported to me that he had approached Mr. Tanagi, and the latter had said that he would take the job only if he receives a note of approval from the residents.

The B. C. also asked the Block Manager whether he meant to take the job of block clerk. The Block Manager said no.

"Everything worked out perfectly," he said. All we have to do now is to go around asking residents whether they cared for Mr. Tanagi or not.

It was a nice piece of finesse.

4. Block Organization

I discussed the matter of organizing the block to the B. C. I told him that it was desirable to have a block council made up of block representatives, in order to carry out block matters smoothly.

I also suggested that the boys and girls' recreation be organized within the block soon in preparation for the winter months. The B. C. was receptive to both of these ideas.

In regards to getting the boilermen to keep the stoves going, he said that they could be given a little give from the block fund for this purpose.

5. Return to the Coast

Several Isseis were heard saying that they didn't want to return right away. One wanted to wait until the end of the war.

6. Draft

Suko and Takashima were picked up on September 30. They had either refused to appear for their induction or refused to swear allegiance even if they did. Both seemed to have the idea that they would not have to be drafted.

7. Switchboard Operators

I talked to Nobuye today. First I asked about her job at the hospital. She said that the drafting class she had in mind was closing up because it could not use a rec. hall. She did not want to work at night if she was not going to attend a class. She wanted to know whether Mrs. Roden had doubted her words.

She reported that the girls had gotten together and had decided either to stay on or go off together. Both Sumi and Haruye seemed to have given their week on this. I asked why they were walking out. Her reply was to ask me whether there wasn't a possibility that Mrs. Roden would be kicked out and they could all return to work without a supervisor. I told her that the telephone system might break down and no telephone service available at night. She said that someone at the hospital might die and the people complain to the Council. I said that I was the representative of the Council.

I told her that if all the workers walked off the possibility was that no evacuees would be able to work there at all. I said that I thought both Sumi and Haruye did not mind working with Mrs. Roden and another A. P. Nobuye said that she herself would not work if she were in their shoes.

The whole thing was coming to a show-down. I told her that I would call a meeting of the workers soon.

I spoke to Williams about the Switchboard operators, and he said that if evacuees won't do the work then he'd have to get A. P.'s for it.

8. Administration

Smith said he was worried that the boys at the head office were thinking of closing up mess halls in the half blocks and force them to move. In this way, they would be able to relieve part of the labor shortage.

Smith warned that the older workers could not be expected to work full eight hours.

9. Hospital

Ran into Weston who told me to see Miss Rappaport about the Ward XVI problem. I called up Fujii and asked him whether he cared to come along with me. He did.

We talked to Weston first. Then went to see Miss Rappaport. Middle-aged and an unsmiling face, we sat down to talk to her. Fujii and I took turns talking. First we talked of the desirability of a shorter working hour. Isseis, we said, could not work a full eight hours. Miss Rappaport said that some old ladies did the wrong thing and had to be trained.

I asked about the number of nurse's aides. She said that the number 17 announced should have been 27. At present, half-time student workers were placed on full-time and a number of new workers were added. There were 47½ workers at present, five of them parttime. The rush period was from 6 to 11 A. M. It was slack between 1 and 3.

Mr. Weston said that if six hour shifts were to be allowed, it should be made uniform for all evacuee workers. Miss Rappaport did not seem to favor an immediate cutting down the number of working hours. She said, for instance, that it would require three times as much workers to put in 4 shifts as it did to run three shifts.

Fujii and I argued that Issels should not be expected to work a full eight hours. I said that it was necessary to keep the hospital fully staffed and running smoothly. In order to do this it was desirable to shorten the working hours. She did not seem willing to give in.

We ran into the Ward XVI problem. I suggested that we could recruit workers better if Ward XVI were kept separate. A stone wall. She said that it was disastrous to let it be known that WARD XVI was being kept separate. T. B. was not a disease to be greatly feared. She said that she could not take such a step until she consulted Dr. Neher. I then asked her not to send workers to Ward XVI if they did not want to go. She said that she could not force anyone to go there, but that she merely asked them. She said that she wouldn't force anyone to go. On the other hand, she asked not to make the fact known that Ward XVI was isolated. We agreed to this. Then she herself suggested that she would appreciate our recruiting workers for Ward XVI. She said that they had tried to get members of the families of patients, but did not succeed. In some cases, the patients themselves did not want members of the family to work there. Fujii argued that an educational program should begin with the immediate members of the family of the patient.

Fujii wanted to know whether it wasn't possible to hire workers between the hours of 6-1 and 9-4. Miss Rappaport was figuring up the number of hours a week this would amount to, but finally agreed not to be too strict about the hours. She said she could take several workers on this basis.

We came out with the feeling that we had broken down Miss Rappaport a great deal. The initial opposition I had somehow expected, although I didn't know just how we were going to break through it.

J 10/3/44 Wednesday

1. Bullsession

Last night we had another bullsession at "Bishop"s" place. Elmer was there, as well as Mr. Coombs, high school teacher. He was one of the teachers who were considered "radical", and who got along with evacuees.

Coombs was leaving in order to go into theater work, which he had taken up in college.

Administration

Concerning the Ad. he said that the staff was like a bunch of children. He thought that Beeson nearly hit it on the head when he once stated that the only persons on the project who were qualified to hold their jobs were the school teachers. He said that he did not believe that the administrative ruling about following lines of authority did not work, because people became concerned about their own authority more than the work to be done.

2. Return to the Coast

Coombs painted a rather pessimistic picture of the attitude of most people on the West Coast towards Japanese. He thought that the anti-Japanese feeling was due to "war hysteria".

People, for instance, told a marine back from the South Pacific after 29 months of fighting that when he came back there was one last fight to be fought - to wipe out the Japs. This marine who had attended the University of California, had stated that he was sick and tired of hearing such intolerant remarks, and said that the rest of the men in his company felt the same way. This was in Sacramento, Coombs' home town.

One minister warned Coombs that he was ruining his chances of advancing himself by teaching in a center, and Coombs retort was that such a remark was unlike a minister. He also said that the world was a big place and that he didn't have to stay in Sacramento.

He also cited the example of a man in Placer County who took over orchards of the Japanese. He paid the taxes, but did not choose to share the profits with the Japanese owners. He is now being ostracized by some of his friends for having done this. But, Coombs pointed out, such people cannot be expected to turn over farms back to the Japanese unless they have to. Even though the farms are turned over, they could make it extremely difficult for a Japanese to make a living.

The same sort of feeling, Coombs said, also existed along the Sacramento River. In Woodland, for instance, he heard the statement made that Japanese were not wanted back. When it was pointed out that Japanese were in the Army fighting their war, it was stated that those who fought in the Army could come back--but not members of their family. This sort of attitude seems to be rather prevalent in the rural areas.

Coombs summed the situation up by saying that he thought that it would be just as easy to start a farm or business elsewhere as it was to return to the Coast.

3. Emptying the Half-Blocks

Stafford seems to have decided that in order to alleviate the labor shortage the half blocks should be moved out.

Today, at a staff meeting, Stafford is said to have declared that the way to accomplish this was to tell the people that if they didn't clear out, the I. S. or the M. P. would be called in. Huberman opposed this idea in favor of a more reasonable plan. Stafford, with the backing of Rawlings and Nichols, then told Huberman to go ahead and see if he could empty three blocks without causing trouble.

Huberman, according to Elmer Smith, recognized that he was being given a "raw deal", but said that it was going to take more than that to chase him out of the project.

It seems like childish, petty politics.

Huberman asked for two days in which he could think the matter over. He consulted Smith, and asked the Community Analyst to write up all of the possible reactions to the situation.

J 10/5/44

1. Block Clerk

Last night, Mr. Hata had George Hara and myself go around and ask people to vote for a block clerk. The reason for this was that Mr. Hata understood that Mr. Tanagi would not accept the position of block clerk unless he was approved at a block meeting. George and I went around together. I did most of the talking at first. I explained first that a block clerk had become necessary. Mr. Sakumoto, the block manager, had refused to accept the new position. Did they have anybody in mind who was suitable. The answer was usually that they didn't have anybody in mind or that they preferred to leave the matter up to us. Then we said that we thought that Mr. Tanagi was a good person. When we came to Mr. Sumi's place, he said that he wanted to do the job. I told him that I would make him a candidate. Therefore, we went around saying that both Mr. Sumi and Mr. Tanagi were persons we had in mind. It took us a long time to make the rounds, apartment by apartment. The rest of the yakuin were out playing baseball.

The result of the election was:

Tanagi	-	26
Sumi	-	2

with several votes each for the following:

Hara
Hata
Sakumoto
Kihara
Yamamoto

In all, there were 47 votes cast.

This evening, Mr. Hata called a meeting of the yakuin. He explained that the election had been held informally because he knew that it was impossible to get people together in a block meeting. He said that he had talked to Mr. Tanagi, but he seemed reluctant to accept the job. He thought that the yakuin should visit Mr. Tanagi and ask him to accept the job. Mr. Yotsuuye (internee) thought that this was a good idea. The block manager then said that he thought that the election was not a fair one and that a reelection should be held. Mr. Hata explained that the election was held in the way it had been because he knew that a block meeting would produce little response. I backed him up, saying that I thought that the election had given the people a chance to express their opinion. Hata began to say that he ought to be replaced and seemed to have taken the block manager's remark personally. Shibata said that a block meeting would not have been successful. Sakumoto seemed to be in favor of Sumi-san. Shibata said

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that Sumi-san was needed as a cook in the messhall. Finally, the block manager gave in. He said that he didn't have a right to sit in on the Yakuinkai because he was no longer a block manager. Decision was reached to ask Mr. Tanagi first. The Block Manager went home as the rest of us went to see Mr. Tanagi.

Tanagi refused to accept the position, saying that he had certain reasons for doing so. He said that he had something in mind for the rest of the year, and did not want to accept the position until then. Hata-san and I did most of the arguing with him, but he refused to budge.

Mrs. Tanagi came in and she said that:

1. It was urusai (troublesome) to accept such a job in the block.
2. Her husband was blunt and not suited to such a job.
3. It might be all right if the block had another election and her husband was voted first again.

We left, asking him to think the matter over. Hata, Hara and I decided that it was necessary to win over the wife before the husband.

2. Council Public Meeting

Held last night in Block 4. Response not so good--only about 40 present. Mostly Issei men with a few Issei women. There was a mistaken announcement of the place in the Japanese section of the Irrigator, which specified Block 3 rather than 4.

Fujii gave a report on past activities on the Council. Then he brought out the serious manpower situation. He said that a manpower commission had been set up to make adjustments. The Council was desirous of seeing to it that the most vital activities were retained and less vital ones eliminated to carry on the vital ones.

Questions were allowed. They covered the hospital, food, coal distribution, and the limiting of the social obligations in the center. The nature of the questions was similar to those that were brought up at the meeting with the Spanish Consul representative.

The discussion on the distribution of coal within the block was interesting. Those present wanted the Council to make it

mandatory so that people would not pick up chunks alone, but would scoop up both chunks and dust. The reply of Council members that they must rely on the cooperation of the block people to get any action. The block people themselves in the final analysis would have to see to it that these suggestions are carried out.

The same sort of argument occurred over the problem of limiting social obligations. One man wanted the Council to make these limitations mandatory. The Council representatives replied that in some blocks they were being carried out. It was up to the block to see to it that it was carried out.

These examples seem to show the desirability of a good block organization.

J 10/5/44 #1

COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICE
Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

October 6, 1944

TO: All Switchboard Operators
FROM: James Sakoda, Labor Relations Advisor
SUBJECT: Addition of Appointed Personnel

According to the information of hand three of you have already handed in your request for termination and the other three feel that in fairness to the others you should do the same.

I would like to request all operators to stay on duty on the status quo, whether you have given notice of termination or not, until we have more information on the following:

1. The reason for the contemplated increase of appointed personnel. Mr. Nichols has been asked to give us his clarification on this point.
2. Whether or not an appointed personnel will be approved by the Washington Office.

The reason for this request is that to my mind it is advantageous for the workers to stay on the job together for the present. I am attempting to keep the job of switchboard operator open for as many evacuees as possible, since this is a type of work on which valuable work experience can be gotten. If all of the operators quit together the possibility is that the positions will be filled by appointed personnel, since telephone service is a function that must continue. If several of you quit now, it is going to be difficult to keep as many evacuee workers as possible on the job. While no assurance can be given that this arrangement will be advantageous to all workers, at least it seems to be advantageous to evacuees as a whole.

I shall keep you informed of further development on this matter.

ds
J 10/7/44 Thursday

1. Work Experience Meeting

Amerman outlines own plan. She suggests a list of "acceptable" jobs.

Kleinkopf asks: What about those working half a semester? I would also like to know the age and the class of the student.

Fogarty: Can we evaluate "acceptable" jobs without knowing the nature of supervision?

Amerman: Until now, the work has been approved by the core teacher.

Kleinkopf: How do we know we are going to get co-operation from the supervisors?

Amerman: Any menial job can be of profit to the students. (Her theme)

Cutkosky: Vocational Education and work experience should be combined to work together.

Kleinkopf: School people should have some supervision over the work. But you can't spread out very far.

J.S.

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Student	Worker
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double-standard is not good. Smith agrees and so does Cutkosky.

Fogarty: It doesn't mean that we can't have work experience in some places like the hospital.

Kleinkopf: If we are to have work experience approved, we'd have to have it in places which are fairly well under control.

Cutkosky: It would work better when they keep the students in one group apart from other workers.

Kleinkopf: If the 136 students are cut down to 50 how would that affect the schedule?

Amerman: This had a precedence of two years. Work experience was advocated as a means of adding to the qualification of a student. Increase of social attitudes was also involved. A student holding his own with adult workers was considered a qualification.

J 10/7/44 #1-2

Amerman: Do you think it is necessary for special teachers to supervise the work experience?

Kleinkopf: I don't think it's possible to have teachers supervise. Miss Amerman and Mr. Cutkosky could do that.

Amerman: How about making changes after the end of this semester?

Cutkosky: How about starting with a training program for foremen?

Kleinkopf: We can't change abruptly. We should make a survey first.

Amerman: 1. Make a survey first.
2. See about supervisory possibility.
3. Make plans for next semester.

Kleinkopf: I still think that work experience should be related to school work.

Js: It should be related to life experience.

Amerman: How about the exploratory value?

Fogarty: If it's valuable for the girl, she should be allowed to take the job regardless of the subjects taken at school.

Kleinkopf: The Home Ec girls should have priority. The State doesn't say that you can take anything. They insist on related subjects.

I think we could leave it to the high school authorities. If the committee agrees, I wouldn't object. I admit that there can be value in all types of work experience.

Kleinkopf: Shall we allow the students go ahead as at present?

Amerman: We could steer students out of undesirable jobs.

Kleinkopf: There is a possibility of the whole program being dropped.

J 10/7/44 #1-3

Analysis: This meeting was most interesting. Mr. Kleinkopf in on the Adult Ed. Committee, only I didn't know that it was he. He didn't say much anyway. But at this meeting I was able to witness the clash of different personalities. First, there was Miss Amerman, who seemed determined to retain as much of her work experience program as possible. She had prevailed upon me to attend this meeting in the hopes that she could get support for the more "liberal" point of view. She said at the time that the others with more "conservative" viewpoints seemed determined to cut down her program to a bare minimum. A meeting on this particular subject had been held before, and she had found some of the others too anxious to restrict her program. By and large, Kleinkopf seemed to have taken the stand of the representative of the State Board of Education, that work experience should be limited to work related to subjects taken by the students.

At some point in the discussion the desirability of proper work habits was introduced, and this became the main difficulty that had to be handled by Miss Amerman. Kleinkopf pointed out the seriousness of these obstacles. On both of these grounds, such work as working on the coal crew was considered to be out of the question for the students work experience program. Dan Williams, at the last meeting, had sided with Amerman in insisting that any type of work should be considered as long as proper working habits were formed.

Mr. Fogarty, the high school principal, did not say much, and he steered a middle course, sometimes siding with Miss Amerman and sometimes with Kleinkopf. He did feel that this program was workable. Minnesang, Personnel Technician, did not say too much. Neither did Mr. Harker, assistant principal. Mr. Cutkosky, Vocational Ed Director, had a rather practical view, as did myself and Smith. Chikata hardly said anything. On the one side were academic men, and on the other more practical men. The academic men were strung along a continuum, with Amerman at one end and Kleinkopf at the other. Fogarty was in between someplace. This, by the way, coincided with the general seating arrangement.

Amerman

Fogarty

Kleinkopf

Cutkosky

Sakoda, Smith

The meeting started out with Miss Amerman placing herself on the defensive, putting all her cards on the table. She had a list of "acceptable" jobs which might be considered as a working basis. She had not included work on the coal crew on this list, hinting that this was a concession to the others. Kleinkopf immediately attacked by bringing out the difficulty in the situation. He wanted to know how, for instance, cooperation of supervisors was to be gotten. How was the school going to supervise working conditions? Kleinkopf was of the opinion that whatever work experience was offered, it would have to be greatly limited in scope. He mentioned, for instance, the cutting of the present 300 odd student workers receiving credit to about 50, whereas according to Amerman's proposed list, it would be cut down not more than to about 175.

Then Miss Amerman asked Sakoda and Smith for their opinion on the subject. I came out and said that I did not approve of students and regular workers working together. The workers resented strict supervision because they were receiving only \$16 or \$19. If the supervisor had to tighten restrictions for the sake of the students, then there would be resentment on the part of workers. The double-standard would confuse the supervisor. Anyway, there were very few places on the project where students could work with other workers and get good working habits. Smith backed me up on all the points. Cutkosky agreed enthusiastically that mixing in students and workers was good for neither groups. It was added reason for having a closer tie-up between the vocational education program (\$12) and the work experience program.

Amerman seemed overwhelmed by this attack on the work experience program. Kleinkopf had gained support for his arguments to reduce the program, and he seemed somewhat pleased. Fogarty defended the work experience program by saying that there was no reason why the work experience program could not be put into effect in some places like the hospital. Everyone agreed that the hospital was a good place to get work experience.

Kleinkopf's insistence upon a survey of working places was agreed to be necessary.

Kleinkopf granted that no radical changes which would upset the students should be made in the middle of the semester. Amerman said that she planned to steer students out of the poor working places. This seems to have satisfied Kleinkopf, and it was decided that any new program would not take place until the beginning of the new semester. The fate of students now working had worried Miss Amerman, and she later said that she was surprised that Kleinkopf had conceded so much on this point.

Another point of contention was in regards to the neces-

sity of having work be related to subjects taken by the students. Kleinkopf declared that this was insisted upon by the State Board of Education, and he thought that work should be related to subjects. Amerman argued a little about losing the exploratory value. Smith opened up and demanded whether it would be necessary for a girl to take biology in order to get work experience in the hospital. I stated that the value of work experience should be judged in the light of the whole life of the individual, and not only in terms of a particular subject a student happened to be taking. Fogarty gave in to Smith's argument. Kleinkopf finally said that he thought it was all right to leave the final decision to the high school authorities. But it could not remain uncontrolled because of the State Board ruling on related subjects.

Later I talked to Miss Amerman and she said that she was surprised that Smith and I had been so "conservative." At the same time she was surprised that Kleinkopf had given in as much as he did. I told her that by our blasting the whole program, she would be able to get ahead with it further. Also, that sometimes it's better to go around an individual.

Smith agreed with me that Amerman was much better off because we had placed the school authorities on the defensive about their own program. After all, Kleinkopf had helped draft the program himself.

2. Adult Education Committee Meeting

Mr. Niver presented the idea of having small discussion groups, which was suggested by Van Buskirk from Washington.

The committee, I learned, was formed as an advisory committee to guide the Adult Education program and was composed of "key" appointed personnel and evacuees. Those present were Chikata, Niver, Mrs. Watanabe, Tambara, Mrs. Hara, and myself. I was appointed by Huberman.

Decisions reached: To get speakers to give talks to fujinkais. To start with, Mrs. Hara's block first--I was selected to get the speakers.

Mr. Niver also wanted to go on a campaign for the Adult Education program.

The program is rather late getting started. Tom Ogawa wanted to know whether it would interfere with the manpower situation. I told him that it probably did, but that it might be best to let Niver go ahead and do what he could be for the brakes were applied.

3. Niver--C.A. Meeting

Yesterday Niver took me to a CA meeting. He said that he could get along with Ikoma, but that Ota had been interfering with his activities. Niver wanted to know why there were rumors going around about the Adult Education program being inefficient. This seemed to be in regards to the arts and craft which was taken over by the Adult Education from the C.A. There was a feeling that under the Adult Education program it would be less easy to set up classes than on the tuition basis. I asked whether arts and crafts and Japanese penmanship had been taken over by the Adult Education entirely. Everybody assented. That some doubt had remained in the minds of some was indicated by Ikoma's question as to what should be done with complaints. Niver said that they should be sent to him.

Another point of contention was with regards to the use of recreation halls. Niver asked for the use of nursery schools, which were suitable for his purpose and evenly distributed throughout the project. Several points were stressed by Tom Takeuchi:

1. The C.A. should retain control over the rec. halls, including nursery school buildings.
2. The C.A. should be the clearing house for the use of rec. halls to avoid confusion.
3. Adult Education could submit requests to the C.A. for the use of a rec. hall.

Niver said that he did not want to have a battle each time he had to have a rec. hall. He asked for the use of nursery schools. Shig Osawa suggested the compromise accepted.

1. Nursery schools still in control of C.A.
2. Nursery school to have first priority on use of their buildings.
3. Adult Education to be given second priority.

I pointed out that as long as the C. A. was able to provide rec. hall space fairly, it did not matter if they retained control over them.

J 10/9/44 Monday

1. Switchboard Operators

Last Saturday Nobuye came in and said that she was going out to seasonal work on Monday. Since she gave her two weeks' notice on or about the first, she had left before the two weeks. Barbara and Haruye didn't know what to do. Sumi said that she was mad and didn't want to hear anything more about the whole matter. She understood, it seemed, my point of view that the girls should stay on the job until something definite was revealed. Sumi worked Nobuye's night shift on Sunday. Mrs. Roden came back today.

Today the decision to add two A.P.'s was made. Williams said that the decision was made and asked me to go in and talk to the girls. I went to talk to Mrs. Roden, and together we went to see Nichols. I asked Nichols for the reasons for increasing the A.P.'s. His reasons were;

In most centers A.P.'s were operating the switchboard. It was necessary to have A.P.'s because of the confidential nature of the communications. This was especially true of the teletype machine which was recently placed in the telephone booth. The change was the result of an administrative policy--there were no two ways about it. He thought that the protests that the girls were raising were all "foolishness." After all, they were being deprived of a job since they could get jobs elsewhere. If they all wanted to leave the job, he thought that it was perfectly all right.

Concerning the change of the working hours from six to eight he said that the girls were not earning their full pay by working six hours. He said that it was foolishness again that the girls should feel that working eight hours was too strenuous. I said that telephone operators had been working on an eight hour shift but it had been changed to a six hour shift because it was found to be too strenuous. He said that he hadn't heard anything about such history. But it looked like foolishness for workers to set whatever hours they pleased--just as they did out at the front gate. Also, the six-hour working schedule was not supposed to be recognized on the project.

Mrs. Roden was anxious to have two of the girls remain on the job. She said that Margaret was in the booth, stopping each operator, and going into a huddle with him. Mrs. Roden declared that she didn't like this underhanded sort of act on the part of the workers. She said that if Margaret weren't going to be fair about the matter and allow the two girls to stay, then she wasn't going to make it possible to get a job, either.

Mr. Nichols echoed the same thought, If a worker was going around among the others and making it impossible for them to work, then the thing to do was to make it impossible

J 10/9/44 #1-2

to get a job as was done on the outside. These girls could not go out and feel that they could make whatever complaint they pleased and get away with it.

Mrs. Roden also said that if the girls relocated, they shouldn't feel the way they are now feeling. If they did, they wouldn't be able to hold down a job for long. Both seemed to feel that Margaret was the cause of the girls' feeling antagonistic toward their superiors.

I said that I had thought that it would be better to make changes gradually, one at a time. But if this was the way that he wanted to do it, it was all right with me. But I asked Nichols for a written clarification of the reasons that the A.P.'s were being added. Nichols said that he did not see a need for such a memo, but that he'd promise one for me just the same. Nichols asked me to do what I could. Mrs. Roden and I went out.

Mrs. Roden wanted me to urge the two girls to stay on the job. I said that I felt helpless about the whole situation. I might have done something if my advice were accepted, but since Nichols had been so final about the whole matter there was nothing that I could do about it. Mrs. Roden asked me whether I favored the girls' walking out. I said that I didn't want to face the girls and preferred her telling them how things were going to be. The matter was now out of my hands.

I asked her, however, when the girls would be terminated. She said that they could be terminated immediately. However, if all of them were going to leave she wanted time to get replacements. I asked her to make it easy for the girls to get terminations. She retorted that if the girls were not going to leave on a good-will basis, she was not going to make it easy for them to get jobs.

She was rather upset, and kept pouring out all the old arguments over and over again. She thought that the girls had lost all right to any compromise because they terminated themselves in the midst of the negotiation. Nobuye had left before her two weeks were up. She had been as nice to the girls as she could. She had been in Topaz where they had full eight-hour shift and she was told that she should dock time for being late more than 15 minutes. If they went out they should not be feeling the way they were. I told her that I did not even want to sit in on the meeting she planned with the workers the following morning. I left her in a rather upset state of mind. I felt sorry for her because she was taking the brunt of Nichol's policy.

J 10/9/44 #1-3

As I was talking with Mrs. Roden, Margaret strode up and said that she wanted to terminate. Her two weeks were not up as yet.

I went into the booth and talked to Barbara. I said that it seemed as though things weren't looking so good--they were adding two A.P.'s and insisting on an eight-hour shift. Barbara asked what they should do--quit? I said that they could do whatever they pleased. She smiled and said, "Quit, I guess." She seemed to be happy over this prospect. She said that she would see Sumi and Haruye. I said that they should give their two weeks' notice before they quit. If Mrs. Roden made it difficult for them to quit, I asked her to see me. "Blacklist?" she asked, and I said that I didn't know what she had in mind.

510/12/44 #1

Initial
MEETING OF MANPOWER COMMISSION
in
Project Director's Office

October 12, 1944
2:00 p.m. - - 5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS OF COMMISSION

Administrative Representatives

Edward Huberman	Community Management
Bert Weston	Community Management
William Rawlings	Operations
Clyde E. Plank	Operations
Louis E. Rice	Operations
George McIntyre	Operations
Jack H. Nichols	Administrative Management
Cecil Wilder	Administrative Management
L. W. Folsom	Administrative Management

Community Representatives

Kunizo Mayeno	Councilman
Jack Ihachi Chikata	Councilman
Shigeru Osawa	Councilman
Yosajiro Doi	Councilman
Tom Tamaichi Yamada	Block Commissioner
John Shuji Ikeda	Placement Office
George Shintaro Kamaya	Agriculture
James Sakoda	Labor Relations Advisor
Thomas Ogawa	Community Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Stafford, and opened with the reading of Mr. Myer's letter of June 29, 1944, containing suggestions for the formation of a Manpower Commission on the Center. (Copy of letter attached) Mr. Stafford explained that this meeting had been called today for purposes of considering organization necessary, the kind of responsibilities and functions pointed out in the letter:

"This is a large group, eighteen members, and it will be necessary to consider whether we want a number of sub-committees. There is no particular suggestion as to how the Manpower Commission will organize itself, so what we want to talk about today is to try to develop concept of the job at hand, and how we shall organize to tackle that job.

"By and large it appears necessary to arrange a listing of activities, establish priorities, and perhaps look the list over for possibilities of combinations, consolidations or elim-

inations of activities. The other side of the job, of course, is to get the best personnel utilization."

For the purpose of maintaining order, Mr. Stafford appointed Mr. Williams as Temporary Chairman.

As a starting point for consideration of placing units or jobs in one of the three categories, the Chairman listed the thirty-one Administrative functions, giving employment figures for this quarter and last quarter:

Administrative Function	Evacuees Employed	
	Last Quarter	This Quarter
1. Office of Project Director	36	36
2. Legal Division	6	6
3. Reports	24	24
4. Relocation	30	30
5. Administrative Management	1	1
6. Supply	4	5
7. Procurement	9	9
8. Postal	26	28
9. Property	70	70
10. Mess Operation	1170	1170
11. Finance	9	9
12. Budget and Accounts	12	12
13. Cost	49	49
14. Office Service	22	22
15. Statistics	18	18
16. Personnel	22	24
17. Evacuee Property	7	7
18. Engineering	11	11
19. Irrigation	73	73
20. Construction and Maintenance	427	427
21. Agriculture	332	434
22. Industry	9	9
23. Motor Transport	229	229
24. Finance Department	56	56
25. Education	108	108
26. Health	216	216
27. Welfare	36	36
28. Internal Security	47	47
29. Community Activities	31	31
30. Community Analyst	5	5
31. Community Government	6	7
Total Ceiling		
This Quarter: Oct., Nov.	3,208	
Dec.	3,108	
Last Quarter:	3,100	
Number of People Working	2,200	

The chairman commented on the recommendation made in Mr. Myer's letter of June 29 that all activities be surveyed. After such survey is made, the Commission will know just which activities should go on. The Chairman called for suggestions from the floor as to the method preferred for investigation of functions.

Mr. Shigeru Osawa suggested a committee of six, who could perhaps devote half time on the survey and study of each division.

Mr. George McIntyre suggested that perhaps two committees of six each would be more practical because of the volume of work involved.

Mr. Edward Huberman suggested nine two-man committees, one Evacuee and one Appointed Personnel member of the Manpower Commission, which would utilize all eighteen members. He commented that this would greatly facilitate the work of gathering information, and the Commission is interested in getting the information as soon as possible.

The question of whether the committees would make recommendations was raised. It was felt that the committees would be essentially fact-finding bodies, and that information submitted by them would be the basis of recommendations made by the Commission.

Mr. Tom Ogawa raised the point that the, for one, as a member of such a two-man committee as suggested by Mr. Huberman, would not care to be put so much "on the spot" with the workers on jobs which his committee would investigate.

It was suggested that Personnel probably had figures available on employment that would serve the purpose. Mr. Nichols pointed out, however, that a more personal survey would be necessary to disclose misassignments, as well as cases of workers with a skill doing some other kind of work. It was commented that perhaps with a shifting of people, work could be carried on more efficiently in the center with just the people already employed. In this connection it will also be helpful to have the recommendations of the Manpower Commission on ratings of vital, necessary or desirable for each and every function. At this point, Mr. Rawlings remarked that each activity within a function ought to be considered, since some were more important than others; for example, different activities within the function of Agriculture.

Mr. Jack Nichols suggested that perhaps Personnel might gather the information for the Commission, and would have the advantage of technical methods of so doing.

Mr. Tom Ogawa remarked, in line with seeing that people worked on jobs they were trained to do, that one of the first duties of the Commission would perhaps be to find out why this was so; and perhaps to try to get the people into a "working" mood. If everyone were interested in "how to do my share", there might not be a manpower shortage here.

Mr. Weston made the point that perhaps a uniform policy of working hours on a project-wide basis might be established, to obviate the excuse of "easier working hours" for changing jobs, or for not shifting to work for which trained.

Mr. Mayeno suggested that perhaps the adoption of a policy of paying for overtime over eight hours would be a work incentive. Mr. Rawlings commented that it would be necessary to justify such a request to Washington on the basis that the center could not be operated except by such action, and that would be difficult to do. Workers are compensated now for overtime by time off; but it was agreed that in some positions work is so pressing that taking time off is quite a problem. Mr. Huberman stated that Washington very recently turned down just such a request for overtime pay.

Mr. Ogawa explained that Mr. Mayeno and Mr. Fujii had discussed overtime pay for over 8 hours with the thought in mind that perhaps if they were paid, workers would help out on such things as the coal crew or harvesting say from 6 to 10 at night, after their regular work day.

Mr. Nichols was of the opinion that overtime was one more problem that would be solved by proper distribution of labor.

Mr. Ogawa harked back to getting people in the "mood" for working. The Council has made itself unpopular in urging the people to work. In almost every case the attitude is that "The Government brought us here, it is the Government's responsibility to look after us." It is hard to say what percentage of the population would entertain such a bitter attitude as of this date, but at the same time it has to be reckoned with. The first step in our discussion of betterment of manpower conditions here should perhaps be to try to present arguments logically, and approach the people in the right manner. The Council passed a resolution in its last meeting on Tuesday, which reads: (Resolution attached)

Mr. Weston stated that if it had never been announced, there should perhaps be a definite statement of just where the two responsibilities begin and end.

Mr. Nichols suggested that the meeting was wandering from

its announced purpose, and Mr. Rawlings asked that an outline be made of the information to be gathered in the survey. The following outline was evolved from Mr. Huberman's suggestions:

1. Number of workers authorized.
2. Number of workers actually employed.
3. Contribution of unit to center operation.
4. Contribution of individual position to unit operation.
5. General remarks.

Mr. Ogawa raised the question of a 50-50 split in the vote of the Commission in deciding whether an activity or function was vital or necessary. Mr. Rawlings stated that in this case, two reports would be submitted to the Project Director, who would make the decision.

Mr. William Rawlings suggested that investigating committees be composed of two members of the Manpower Commission, one Evacuee and one Appointed Personnel, the Section Head, and the Evacuee foreman or assistant section head or whatever Evacuee is involved in the specific section, with the Personnel Technician as ex officio member of each committee and secretary to the committee.

Mr. Huberman objected to this suggestion on the ground that the Manpower Commission, having been set up to do a task, had not the power to delegate the job to anyone outside the Commission.

Mr. Nichols voiced his opinion that all of the various proposals made still did not meet Mr. Ogawa's objection that some one individual would be put on the spot for having made the investigation. Mr. Nichols suggested that since the machinery for getting the information rested within the divisions anyway, that each Division Head be responsible for presenting information to the Manpower Commission for recommendations and ratings.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Rice, and the Chairman called for a show of hands in voting. The vote was recorded as: Yes - 10; No - 4; Not voting - 3.

It was announced that the next meeting of the Commission would be on Wednesday, October 18, at 9:00 a.m. in the Project Director's Office.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

COPY

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington 25

J 10/12/44 #2

June 29, 1944

Mr. Harry L. Stafford
Project Director
Minidoka Relocation Center
Hunt, Idaho

Dear Mr. Stafford:

The criticalness of the developing labor shortage is increasing as hundreds of evacuee continue to depart the Centers. Most Centers have already experienced difficulty in filling positions which are currently open and at some deficiencies are adversely affecting some phase of maintenance, operations or production. We may expect that within the next three months, the problem of supplying adequate manpower to provide essential services will affect every Center, and become seriously critical at several. The tide of relocation can be expected to continue to drain the better qualified and physically fit from the Centers and thus pyramid the problem of the continuance of essential activities for those remaining.

The solution to the problem of labor shortage will have to be found within the resources which we now have. There needs to an immediate re-evaluation of all our activities with the end in view of elimination, curtailment or consolidation. There will need to be an evaluation of the efficiency with which current manpower resources are utilized and steps taken to eliminate overstaffing and inefficient use. It will be impossible both from the standpoint of personnel available and from budget limitations, to expect to meet these needs through the recruitment of additional appointed personnel.

The Administration and the community have a joint responsibility in providing for the needs of the residents. Since the solution to the problem can come only through joint planning and participation, the Project Director should appoint a staff committee which includes the three Assistant Directors, the Personnel Officer, and the heads of those sections which employ large numbers of evacuees. The Project Director should also request the designation by the Community Council of a committee which might be the Labor Committee of the Council, the Fair Labor Practices Committee or a combination of members drawn from these committees and other groups, to represent the community in study of the manpower situation. This total group could be designated as the Manpower Commission. The representatives of the Administration and of the community should assume as their responsibility a careful study of the existing situation and recommendations for providing labor for the continuance of the vital and essential services. The Personnel Management Section will be responsible for providing tech-

Mr. Harry L. Stafford--2

nical assistance.

The joint Administration-community group should make an analysis of the situation and prepare a plan of action. The analysis should undoubtedly include present population, estimates of future population for three and six months periods, and the basic needs of this population. The labor resources analysis will show present employment, unemployment, available part-time workers, and estimated labor resources for three and six month periods. Each activity should be given a priority rating. It is suggested that activities be rated either (a) vital, (b) necessary or (c) desirable. The optimum and minimum number of employees for each such activity should be determined. The nature of the problem should become clear when labor resources are projected against needs expressed by priorities.

It is obvious that gross numbers of workers do not solve the problems of providing services to the community. Consideration should also be given to utilization and performance. Discussion should include performance standards, the reassignment of persons on the basis of utilization of highest skills, improvement in work techniques, training, and recruitment of persons for part-time work or as replacement workers in less strenuous activities.

Please keep me advised of the situation at your Center, and the steps you have taken to determine the character of the problem and any solution you may have developed. From time to time, you may expect requests for specific information to be used in comparative analysis.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

C
O
P
Y

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Minidoka Relocation Center
Hunt, Idaho

J 10/12/44 #3

MEMO TO: Jack H. Nichols, Asst. Project Director in Charge
of Administrative Management
Edward Huberman, Asst. Project Director in Charge
of Community Management
William Rawlings, Asst. Project Director in Charge .
of Operations

SUBJECT: OUTLINE FOR USE IN GATHERING INFORMATION FOR
MANPOWER COMMISSION

As determined by the Manpower Commission in its initial meeting, 12, October 1944, collection of information relative to functions pertaining to the divisions, sections, and units, will be under the supervision of division heads, and guided by the following outline:

1. Number of workers budgeted
2. Number of workers actually employed
3. Contribution of Unit to Center operation
4. Contribution of individual position to unit operation
5. General remarks

Dan T. Williams
Acting Personnel Officer

cc--Mr. Stafford

DTWilliams/cn

5,018/44 #1

MANPOWER COMMISSION MEETING
in
Project Director's Office

October 18, 1944
9:00 a.m. - - - 12:05 p.m.

Those present: Mr. Mann (for Mr. Nichols), Mr. Weston, Mr. Wilder, Mr. Williams, Mr. Graham, Mr. Huberman, Mr. Stalley, from Washington Office, Mr. Rawlings, Mr. Rice, Mr. Plank, Mr. Stafford, representing the administration. Mr. McIntyre arrived late. Representing the evacuees were Mr. Yamada, Mr. Chikata, Mr. Ogawa, Mr. Osawa, Mr. Mayeno, Mr. Doi and Mr. Ikeda arrived late, and Mr. Kamaya and Mr. Sakoda had excused absences.

Discussed: Employment, functions of divisions, and population support.

The second meeting of the War Manpower Commission was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Williams read the minutes of the previous meeting and it was accepted without corrections.

Following, is a summary of the meeting:

Stafford: Last week when I came in at close of meeting, there were the following items on the board:

1. Number of persons per activity
2. Number of persons actually employed
3. When called upon by this group, division heads were to make necessary explanations
4. General remarks

Out of that, I suggested to the Division Heads to bring in Items 1 and 2, which are on the board this morning. It is impractical to bring Item 3 and 4 to meeting like this, but we should have narrative reports by divisions heads, perhaps for third meeting of this group.

I would like to give the Commission the benefit of some of the Denver discussions. I think I might elaborate on the statements made in the Irrigator but, first, I would like to read the Resolution from the Council which raised some questions which I think are of immediate concern to the Commission.

(Read Resolution of Council, which indicates some of the problems which the Commission will be confronted with.)

In regard to the resolution on the project director's authority, I would like to give you the benefit of my thinking, which might not be forthcoming in a signed document. The Council is correct--it has never been determined on this project where government responsibility began and ended and evacuee responsibility began and ended.

At the beginning of this project in the fall of 1942, a great many people were on the payroll as we had a lot of construction. At that time, there were five principle points, or obligations, assumed by the government:

1. Housing
2. Feeding
3. Hospitalization
4. Education for children
5. Gainful employment

The fifth point started to change as relocation was worked out. Gainful employment meant relocation and rehabilitation outside. At the outset of this program, approximately 4,000 people were on payroll while the quota on July 1, 1943, was approximately 2,900.

To answer the memorandum verbally, my frank and personal conviction at the present time is that the responsibilities of the federal government, from all indications I can get, is to place all essentials incidental to living, and it is the responsibility of the residents here to utilize such provisions.

Better housing has contributed to better living and a better community. Facilities for storage of perishable food on project is not available so it must be received at Eden and placed in storage at Twin Falls. As to question of fuel, government has no other facilities but to unload at spur. We have succeeded in getting a shovel to unload it and also dump trucks to haul it.

In answer to the Council's question, we will have to determine from here on what services the folks are going to support.

Let us close the first part of this discussion on the assumption that we have provided a great deal of work because the evacuees wanted the job done and wanted to work.

DENVER MEETING: The statement was made in Denver that no project would be closed until all projects were closed. In connection with that, I would like to read what was in the Irrigator:

(Read article in Irrigator, with following comments:)

We have been of the opinion that, even if some camps had to be closed, I think it unlikely that Minidoka would have been closed, because of far, location, labor demand area, etc.

I think the Ordnance offer the third most important thing that has happened to our folks since evacuation. The other two were:

1. Registration and volunteer
2. Re-establishment of Selective Service, and now,
3. Relocation and rehabilitation in the Ordnance offer.

The difference in wages and rent at the two Ordnance plants has been ironed out. Mr. Takahashi told me yesterday morning that there was bad community acceptance on the West Coast and it was going to be a bad relocation area. Thus more emphasis should be placed on Ordnance offer. With relocation and Ordnance deal, we have to keep pace with a declining population.

Soon the population here will be half of camp capacity. You will have to figure on cutting out all construction. If I find out from Engineers that the gym will not be available for this school term, it will be shut down. Land subjugation has been completed as far as we are concerned but we have had great difficulty in handling farm operations.

Here are some questions for the Commission to consider: How big a farm program do we want next year? What kind of program do you want to support? What kind of program will the population support?

On family relocation, I recommend the Manpower Commission, to put great emphasis on the Evacuee Property Office and the Relocation and Welfare Divisions.

Co-op has 157 employees and they were notified to keep pace with a declining population.

On consolidation of block occupancy, I think there is time before next spring to discuss this further.

Housing, feeding, fuel, hospitalization and sanitation are what we are going to be interested in. It is my opinion that the evacuee population here is not interested in certain things.

I would like to speak briefly of the notice we served on Community Activities yesterday. CA is no longer justified until reorganized. I served a memorandum on Mr. Huberman

which I will read for your benefit. (Read memo of 10/18/44)

This does not mean we will abolish CA. We are going to start from scratch and re-establish it in tune with the needs and the expressions and desires of the community as a whole.

Another point I would like to clarify for Commission is that our hope and aim is to tackle this job jointly. Our means of communication to the residents is not sufficient. Things happen fast administratively. We should find some way in which we can avoid making a goat of the evacuee participants in the joint study of this problem. Manpower will not make decisions but will make recommendations. I think this group can be a lot of benefit to administration and to the residents.

Osawa: Why not have the Project Director and Assistant Project Directors make all recommendations?

Stafford: What you mean is, evacuee judgment carried no weight?

Osawa: Yes. So there is no sense in having one. You are not taking the evacuees into consideration. They make the recommendations but you are the judge.

Stafford: It would put evacuees on the spot, so administration will make decisions.

The Commission will have a voice in the reorganization of CA.

Mayeno: After CA closes October 31, what division will take care of recreation for residents?

Stafford: There will probably be a holiday between then and the 15th unless Mr. Huberman can make temporary arrangements.

Can I answer any questions?

Ogawa: May I make a few comments? I don't think you are starting in the right place when you say, fundamentally, start in with what the residents want or will support. I think it goes back further--to what residents are thinking, the attitude of the residents. I think we know generally what they are thinking now.

Stafford: We don't.

Ogawa: I think this group can arrive at a more or less unanimous agreement as to what should be done as to ad-

justments, etc. But to my mind what is to be done is not quite so important as how it is to be done; how to approach people who are thinking along certain lines. You have to recognize that my position, for instance, in the community is one of anti-administration.

That has been brought out in the meetings the Council held recently. For example, the question was raised that people don't want Fujii and I to be on your payroll. The idea is how can we fight you when you are paying our salary. You understand that?

Stafford: Yes, I understand you.

Ogawa: So I can't agree with you. Thinking must be along the line of how it is to be done. We are still on the spot of serving on the Commission that made the recommendations.

Stafford: The AP understand the point of view you just expressed. We have to contend with the fact that we have a great many people who have anti-administration attitudes. I think I shall transmit your memorandum to Washington.

(Cited case of Granada and Tule Lake in which the residents refused to unload and haul coal)

I think that, at the bottom of this anti-business, is misunderstanding and lack of information.

Osawa: When WRA first started, they issued a pamphlet saying that the relocation centers would be permanent homes for the duration.

Stafford: Nothing is irrevocable.

Osawa: It is hard for people who were established before to relocate now.

Stafford: I am not arguing about that.

I think I can work out with Mr. Myer, in connection with these five points, sufficient breakdown to clarify some of the matter. It is fundamental that we get over first hurdle.

Rawlings: There is a manner of approaching that. If each section would prepare a sort of procedure to start off for discussion purposes, and write detailed description of activities involved in every operation.

Manpower Commission Meeting 10/18/44--6

Stafford: I think the Manpower Commission's position, as far as resident participation and representation is concerned, is synonymous with the Council. Until we get a statement of policy, what the Manpower Commission is trying to tell me is that they cannot function.

Ogawa: I think if there is work incentive, there wouldn't be any manpower shortage.

Stafford: The thing I wanted to make plain this morning is that there are a lot of administrative problems where I have to make the decision. I am going to make that decision. I don't want the Council to get the 'head'. That's why I don't ask the Commission to make decisions but to make recommendations.

Stally: Wouldn't it be helpful to you to have the recommendations of this group as to what is essential?

Stafford: We all know it is desirable to have gym but what we are interested in is whether it will be finished in time to do any good.

Plank: We estimated that it will be 3½ months yet with a crew of 18 men and one foreman.

Williams: That is same number of workers as when population was higher.

Osawa: People are coming back from seasonal.

Williams: 1600 people are on seasonal leave. What was the percentage before?

Osawa: I don't know. But about 1,000 will be coming back--all workers.

Williams: They've all made money, so they might not want to work.

Osawa: That depends on individual. If you try to force them, they might not work.

Stafford: We won't force anybody.

Using coal as an illustration, government obligation leaves off when the coal arrives on track and evacuee obligation begins in unloading it, bringing it in and delivering it.

The government has set up the hospital, equipped it and fur-

nished the supervisory staff. It is up to the residents to furnish the labor.

Weston: Would it be justified to have a family member take care of a patient?

Stafford: We have no compulsions, but we have had training program for nurses' aides. They usually go outside when trained; so it's very complicated in that respect.

I would like to ask the Commission to do this: Try to get on next year's agricultural program in so far as preliminaries are concerned.

Rawlings: I think we ought to begin discussing it about the latter part of November or early part of December. Budgetary approval and those things.

Stafford: Do you agree with me that this thing has to be clarified before we go on, Mr. Ogawa?

Ogawa: No, I don't think so. That doesn't solve all the problems.

Stafford: Our real problem is to improve the understanding of the community on these matters. Some of these adjustments are inevitable. We have to be prepared for the day we are going to close.

I would like to ask the Operations Division and the Commission if they can arrive at any suggested program in agriculture for next year.

Ogawa: The evacuee part of this Commission couldn't consider that problem without first knowing budgetary restrictions.

Stafford: That might be part of your consideration for the farm program.

Rawlings: I think we will need another meeting of the Commission to set up the mechanics of operations.

Williams: I suggested at last meeting that the division heads should be responsible for functions in his particular division. It would be up to division heads and his section heads to justify functions and that would be subject to any interrogations of Commission members.

Mr. Weston suggested another meeting on Friday morning,

Manpower Commission Meeting 10/18/44--8

when the group would make an outline of anything they want from Division Heads.

Because of the field work involved in the Operations Division, Mr. Rawlings suggested Friday afternoon.

All were in favor of holding next meeting at 2:00 P. M., Friday afternoon, in the office of Project Director.

Mr. Williams adjourned the meeting at 12:05.

Respectfully submitted,

10-24-44

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICE
Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

J 10/19/44 #2

October 19, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. H. L. Stafford, Project Director
FROM: Yoshito Fujii, Chairman, Community Council
SUBJECT: Instructions from WRA, Washington, Reducing
the Evacuee Hospital Staff

Some months ago we learned that under orders apparently from the Chief Medical Officer of the WRA at Washington, D. C., there was a movement to reduce certain evacuee positions at the Project Hospital, specifically, a curtailment of employees in such categories as dentists, registered nurses and pharmacists.

The effect of the foregoing on our community may be of interest. Residents, generally, interpreted the instructions to be another example of WRA's coerced relocation policy. It was widely believed that the WRA was deliberately curtailing the quality and quantity of hospital services in order that the evacuees would further be influenced into considering relocation.

From our investigations, the instructions from Washington, D. C. were not reasonable in the light of conditions existing at our Project Hospital, and we believe that the administrative staff here, including the project's chief medical officer, concurred with our beliefs.

It is our request that you convey the above message to the Chief Medical Officer at Washington, D. C. and, at the same time, make the suggestion that administrative jurisdiction over the Project Hospital should be more delegated to the Project Director and the Chief Medical Officer of the Project, since these people obviously have a better understanding of local needs.

The foregoing is written as a result of a unanimous vote by the members of the Community Council.

Respectfully,

/s/ Y. Fujii
Yoshito Fujii, Chairman
Community Council

J 10/20/44 #1

1. Ruby's Death

Ruby was expecting a baby some time in November. For some time she was in the hospital under the observation of a heart specialist at the University of Minnesota hospital. According to one story the doctors told Ruby that she should have an abortion, but Ruby insisted on having the baby. This sounds plausible in the light of Ruby's attitude toward the baby. According to Noby, she believed a fortune teller who told her that she would be strong after having a baby. She also said that she wanted to present Noby with a baby. She also seemed to have wanted a baby badly just because she was often told that she couldn't have one. Even while she was in the hospital she wanted to get out and be doing something. She asked Noby to bring her knitting so that she could be preparing for the baby. While she was teaching she took the trouble to do more than she need have done, such as compiling a vocabulary list for the students.

The two specialists were keeping a close watch over her. Suddenly her blood pressure began to rise. This was attributed to a complication accompanying pregnancy. Albumin was found in her system, a symptom that pregnant women are supposed to dread. Even then Ruby did not want to give up her baby. After some consultation the doctors believed it best to take the baby out to save Ruby's life. A caesarian section was done. It was successful and the baby was saved, but a few hours later Ruby's heart failed her. An autopsy was later made and it was discovered that her right ventricle was just a shell. The doctor believed that she would not have lived very long in any event.

Later Noby, George, May and I went to see the doctor in charge to inquire into the nature of the heart disease that Ruby had. It was a rare disease, and one which was congenital. During pregnancy there is a small tube between the lung and the aorta, through which the blood passes out into the aorta instead of going into the lung which does not function in an unborn baby. At birth, when the lungs begin to function this tube closes up. In Ruby this tube did not close up. The disease is rare enough so that it is not yet known what the chances are of performing with safety an operation which will close this channel. Because of this the pressure of the blood is exerted on the lungs, causing some spots to form. This seemed to have been the reason that Ruby was suspected of pleurisy and tuberculosis. Since blood escapes from its regular channel, the heart has to overwork. For some reason the brunt of the disease is born by the right side of the heart.

The pity in Ruby's seemed to be that she was not aware of the seriousness of her physical condition. It was also ironic that she wanted to do more than she really ought to have done. As someone remarked, Ruby would not have been

J 10/20/44 #1-2

happy living the life of a semi-invalid.

George was expecting a baby any moment, but he went to Minneapolis from Kansas City. May left her baby in charge of a Caucasian minister and rushed to Noby's side. I received the sad news on Monday, October 9, when Rubby passed away, and left on Tuesday and arrived in Minneapolis on Thursday.

Noby said that he expected to move around quite a bit and preferred to be left with only his own personal belongings. George, May and I divided up Ruby's personal belongings. I kept most of Ruby's books and did not ask for anything else. Not knowing whether Hattie would care to wear any of Ruby's things I brought home only her tailored suit made by Mrs. Akahoshi.

The otsuya and the funeral were held at a mortuary. The casket and services cost \$320, and the flowers added to the expense. The funeral service was arranged by Rev. Hayashe, Ruby's co-teacher, and Rev. Kraft, who married Ruby and Noby. Most of those present at the funeral were Caucasians, and it seemed to me to present material for a good feature story. About thirty of Ruby's former students attended the funeral in their uniform. From what I could gather from letters and from what some of her students said, they liked Ruby a great deal and were in tears to see her pass away. They came, it seemed, not because she was their teacher, but because they had come to like her. Ruby had worked hard to teach them Japanese. That she was Japanese and that the students were Caucasians evidently had not occupied her mind. Through her personality, however, she was able to pave the way for better understanding not only between Japanese and Caucasians, but also the peoples of Japan and America. The funeral, it seemed to me, stood as a testimony to this.

George left on Friday because he was expecting a baby at any time. May left on Saturday. I stayed until Wednesday to tide Noby over a trying period.

Noby took the loss of Ruby rather heavily. At first he did not even want to look at the baby and thought only of Ruby. He said that the baby could be sent back to Canada to be reared by his parents. In the meantime, he agreed to have May take care of him for a while. On Monday, Noby, Jane Bessemmer and I went to see the baby. We could only get a glimpse of it in the incubator. But we could see its arms moving around. This time Noby took greater interest in the baby. Later he said that he wanted to keep the baby close by if possible.

The baby was named Rudy Yoneo--Rudy after Ruby, and Yoneo after his mother, Yone.

During the last few days I stayed with Noby as much as possible. At first he seemed quite sure that he wanted to return to Japan rather than to Canada, where he was born. He was attending school in Japan, but returned to his home when war between Japan and America became imminent. One reason for this was his desire to attend school in this country. He left a sister in Japan, and his parents had opposed his return.

He was attending the University of Washington when evacuation was ordered. He stayed in Hunt, and he left it as soon as he could get clearance. He applied for the teaching position at the University last year and has been at it ever since. His main objective, however, was to finish his studies. His field of interest was political science. This year he had signed up for several courses in the hopes of finishing his undergraduate work as soon as possible.

From what he told me the Japanese in Canada were being very poorly treated. They were placed in abandoned mining towns, and those who had property or savings had to pay for their room and board. Property was confiscated. Movement was greatly restricted. A segregation and relocation program was put into effect, and the majority were expected to be deported after the war. The saddest part about it all, Noby said, that unlike in U.S. there were very few people in Canada who thought that the Japanese should receive any better treatment than they were getting. Noby was highly anti-British. He did not see any future for himself in Canada, and he thought that he would have to return to Japan.

One other road was open, and that was to stay in this country. Last year when his student visa expired he was quickly thrown into jail, until he was given an extension of about a year because he was teaching. He had requested Dr. Quigley, the Director of the ASTP program, to make application for stay in this country. However, he did not seem to put much hope in this. I talked about the difficulty of a Nisei in Japan, especially if she did not win the war. She might resent Niseis. I said that it was possible to retain his status in this country either as a student or an instructor. He saw the possibility of becoming an expert in the field of Japanese history and politics. He seemed to have put more hope in staying in this country and said that he would consult me before taking any radical step.

2. Nisei Problem in Minneapolis

The Niseis in Minneapolis have been favored by a number of factors. First, the original students at Camp Savage tended to be a select group and established a good reputation for Niseis in Minneapolis. Coupled with that was the fact that they were serving in the Armed Forces of the

United States. Another factor was that the people in Minneapolis were largely of Scandinavian descent and among them were many who did not have much prejudice against Japanese. Other factors which seem to be important are:

1. Lower wage scale than in a war center. Stenographers receive from \$20-\$25. Typists and clerks less. Girls seem to be doing housework and clerical work, while most of the boys are in semi-war industries.
2. The housing is fairly tight, especially for families. Apartments for two are available.
3. Nature of the Japanese population --a large number of single Nisei girls, and a smaller number of boys. Small number of Isseis.
4. Fort Snelling close by with many young recruits around. They are between 18-20. They swarm over the town on weekends. They are seen both with Nisei girls and with Caucasian girls.

At Fort Snelling I met Koso Takemoto and one of May's friends, who was also an instructor. From my conversation with the latter I got the impression that some friction existed among the instructors. Here was an organization with a definite hierarchial structure. Friction, of course, is to be expected. One of the saddest spectacle, I imagined, would be to see persons who really weren't qualified for a teaching position or a similar position, try to maintain his status on this ground. One concern of the instructors now, it seems, is the future of the teaching program. Some feel that they will be able to retain a job in this field in some sort of capacity. Some believe that they are being overworked.

The recruits at Snelling are worried about a different set of problems. Concerning their army life, their main fear is that they might be used for occupation--meaning the occupation of Japan. The more recent recruits are not volunteers in the sense that the first groups were. They chose to come to Snelling rather than be drafted into the combat unit.

There seems to be quite a competition for the companionship of a girl over the weekends. Soldires from Hawaii are reputed to have a lot of money, and attract even Caucasian girls by flashing bills. The YWCA puts on a dance every Saturday night, and the soldires crowd the floor, outnumbering the Caucasian and Nisei chaperones several times. A remark was made by one fellow that the soldires were just waiting for the dance to be over so that they could see a girl home. Some soldires prefer to attend church services. Others merely come out to town for a show and china-meshi.

While the matter of occupational adjustment is important, the most pressing problem seems to be that of relationship between the two sexes. Hasty marriages, racial inter-marriages, promiscuous sex relationships seem to be the central problems among Niseis.

Both the authorities at Snelling and in the city are concerned about the inter-racial sex relationship, according to Father Dai. He had been consulted on this matter by a city authority who declared that he himself was opposed to inter-marriage and that the people were resenting the increase in the marriage between Nisei soldiers and Caucasian girls. There was one report cited that a Caucasian girl, 17 or 18 years of age had become pregnant after having relations with a Nisei soldier. Since it was a common sight to see a Nisei walking around with a Caucasian girl the general public was able to witness the trend toward increasing inter-racial association. However, it was a difficult matter to control this state of affairs even when it was admitted, as Father Dai did, that for the sake of better inter-racial relationship intimate relationship between opposite sexes of the two races should be decreased. The authorities at Fort Snelling, for instance, found the matter difficult to broach to their soldiers because of fear of the cry of racial discrimination. The public in general also found it difficult to voice their opposition vocally. Because of the "What the hell do I care" attitude of soldiers in general, even ministers and other leaders seem to have difficulty in lessening the trend toward inter-marriage and inter-racial association.

These then are some of the problems that I found facing the Niseis in Minneapolis. Because of the circumstances of my trip, I did not make much effort to delve deeper into these problems.

3. During my absence of eleven days from the project, a number of important developments had taken place. One of them was Nichol's dismissal accompanied by some juicy rumors. According to Elmer, one night Nichols came home about 12 p.m. from the P.X. drunk. About two in the morning he was heard by some A.P.'s yelling in pain. He was sent to the hospital where there was a general commotion among the doctors. He was sent home later, and the Administration made an effort to hush up the story, but was unsuccessful in preventing rumors from spreading. The story told by both Nichols and the administration was that he cut himself as he was trying to climb over a fence. That he had had his sex organs injured and his face scratched up seemed to be definite. How and why this had occurred was not definitely known by most people.

One rumor that was attributed to have started at the hospital was that Nichol's had had an affair with a school teacher and Nichol's wife had cut him up with a knife. Elmer

thought this rumor was wrong, inasmuch as a similar rumor about two A.P.'s being mixed up with the same school teacher was heard before. Another rumor attributed to A.P. sources was that Nichols had come home drunk and had told his wife, "All you want is my money and this," ~~xxxxxxthisxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ "You aren't going to get anymore of this," he said and cut his own sex organs. This, however, does not explain the scratches on his face. Still another explanation, attributed to the hospital, was that Nichols' wife bit his sex organs.

Whichever rumor was closest to the truth, Stafford decided that Nichols should be dismissed.

It was later learned that this was not done.

4. Community Activities

Developments in the C.A. Section smacks of the Stafford touch, and the move to reorganize the C.A. is indeed attributed directly to Stafford, even though many people are more likely to blame Huberman for it.

Marshall Staley, head of the C.A. Section in Washington visited the center. Decision was reached to reorganize the C.A. and to do this by having an advisory council. Huberman consulted Smith on this, and Smith presented a set of recommendations on this subject to Huberman. He warned that any conflict or hard feelings would be directed at Huberman and the Community Management Division. He also advised that if an advisory council were to be formed the C.A. Section be given an opportunity to express its approval of the proposal, and leave the selection of the membership largely up to the Community Council. Staley and Huberman, in two meetings with the C.A. personnel, did not depart radically from this suggestion. However, Stafford seems to have decided a complete reorganization all at once would be better. The C.A. activity was to be suspended as of October 31. (See Irrigator, October 21, 1944, page 1.)

5. Manpower Commission

While I was gone the Manpower Commission had several meetings. Stafford attended a few of these and made it clear that he was still the head of the project and that he did not necessarily have to accept the recommendations made by the Manpower Commission. Some of the Issei members on the commission were highly indignant, and two members tendered their resignation. One was Osawa, who was already upset about C.A. The other was Johnson Ikeda of the Placement Office. Ogawa's stand was that the evacuees should stay in the commission long enough to know what Stafford actually meant to do. He also said that no one should take all the glory for himself by resigning. It was decided that the group would resign in a body, if at all.

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6. War News

Some time ago, from all indications, Radio Tokyo broadcasted that the American ships which ventured out to Formosa were destroyed. The Japanese used airplanes to dive-bomb the ships. This news has been the best one in recent months for Isseis. There was talk that in one block someone celebrated the occasion.

7. Block Clerk

Hata-san could not get anyone in the block to take the position. He heard that Fujitomi, the loudmouth from the next block, had applied for the position, and to prevent his getting it, he took the job himself.

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Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

October 20, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: William E. Rawlings, Assistant Project
Director in Charge of Operations

SUBJECT: Project Gymnasium

It has been administratively determined that to serve any useful or justifiable purpose the gym would need to be completed and ready for use not later than December 30, 1944.

It has been further determined that if the completion of this building is accomplished by December 30, 1944, it will be necessary to provide 20,608 man hours of labor. The completion will require 1,824 hours plumbers, 1,200 hours electricians, 13,984 hours carpenters, 2,400 hours painters. To provide efficiency and safe working conditions the maximum number of persons to be employed at any one time shall not exceed seventy men, including the minimum crew of eighteen men who are now working on the gym.

The justification of further expenditure of government funds and use of vital materials is contingent upon a guarantee on the part of the Council and/or residents of Minidoka that the project will be definitely finished on this schedule. It is also necessary that any recruitment toward this end be accomplished without interference with the crews of labor essential to camp maintenance and operation.

Effective October 24 at the close of business all construction work on the gymnasium is hereby suspended. Further activity shall be authorized only upon compliance with the conditions above outlined and provided that satisfactory commitment and recruitment can be obtained not later than November 1, 1944.

/s/ H. L. Stafford

J 10/20/44 #9

MANPOWER COMMISSION MEETING
in
Project Director's Office

October 20, 1944
2:00 P.M. - - - 5:00 P.M.

Those present: Messrs. Rice, Ikeda, Doi, Yamada, Mayeno, Aoki, McIntyre, Mann, Rawlings, Kamaya, Huberman, Wilder, Plank, Weston, Smith, Chikata, Ogawa, Williams.

Discussed: Purposes of Manpower Commission
Farm Program

The meeting was called to order by chairman, Mr. Dan Williams.

The statements for discussion were read by Mr. Williams.

1. The Manpower Commission is concerned with what the population will support not what any of us would like.

2. The Manpower Commission is not to make decisions but to study the programs incident to a diminishing population and make recommendations to our director. This will enable the residents as well as the administration to keep abreast of the needs for combinations, deletions, or maintaining at present strength in certain activities.

2. The hope and aim of the WRA is that the residents and administration tackle the problem of readjusting the activities to a diminishing population together and in a cooperative spirit.

These were all approved by the people present.

He also read an article from the Topaz Times in which Mr. Hoffman, Project Director had a conference with Director Dillon S. Myer.

"Myer expressed confidence in the center administration and the residents. He expressed his appreciation to the residents for their understanding and cooperation in overcoming center operations problems. He added that there will be need for even more cooperation in the future and for a greater output of energy and industry on the part of remaining residents to solve the ever increasing center operations problems of fewer workers. However, here again he expressed confidence that the residents and administration would be able to work out a satisfactory solution as to how to best meet the essen-

tial needs of the residents with the personnel and workers still at the center."

Mr. Williams stated further that this manpower problem is typical at every center, and that Mr. McLaughlin pointed out that the people are being relocated at a rate of 40 a week or 160 a month. Mr. Stafford pointed out at the last meeting that it is the intention of the Administration to bring up the welfare and relocation and try to make the situation easier for relocation. Relocation will be much faster from now on. From the entire population of all the centers of 100,000, about 30,000 have relocated to date which means that about 1/3 of the people have already relocated. The purpose of this meeting is to find out just how and what this Manpower Commission wants before they are able to make recommendations in regard to function of the agriculture section. Maybe we don't want the agriculture program for 1945. Perhaps it is best that we discontinue the entire function. Discussion was called.

Mr. Rice: It is my understanding that originally it was set up that each person was allowed 45¢ per day for meals and that 14¢ worth of foodstuffs were to be purchased from the farm rather than from an open market. However, this policy has not been followed. It was also said that the project farm produced things that could be obtained at 85% of the open market price. If the same quality and freshness are available from the project produced vegetables at 85% of the cost of market price, it will be a very good investment, but how much we could get out with 14¢ will depend largely on the success of the farm that year.

Mr. Wilder: It is very hard to follow that 14¢ plan. At times that farm will deliver so much that we cannot possibly get rid of them at one time and at other times we don't get enough. For this reason this plan has not been followed.

Mr. Rice: This 14¢ plan was first brought up in WRA office, Washington because they had to have an accounting system account for all this, but at that time, no one was organized or experienced. The only way they could account for this was to take it on cost basis. Mr. Utz remarked that these accountants were impossible. When we got the appropriations for 1943 fiscal year, they told us that Congress allotted 45¢ per day for each person with 31¢ in money and 14¢ to be spent on the farm produced goods. This caused a lot of confusion. The only thing that is advantageous to residents is that meat and poultry products can be obtained at a reduced price.

Mr. Ogawa: From the standpoint of the evacuees, we would like

to have the deliveries made on time, at appropriate amounts, prices, etc. Do we have the pricing and grading commission, and how effective are they, we don't know. The unknown fact is to work out the availability of labor. The seasonal leaves will make a whale of a difference. Whether that vocational work will be continued, will school children be permitted to work on farms, and etc. The purpose is to find out how much of a farm program can the agricultural section carry in 1945.

Mr. Weston: What is the procedure in the past about the farm grown products? Does the Steward Division buy all of them or does the agriculture try to sell all of them to Steward?

Mr. Rice: As a rule, we give them what they ask for. The Steward Division make out their estimation as to the amounts they want. We try to supply them with vegetables as they ask for them.

Mr. Ogawa: Because the car loads to other centers must be made up, the Steward Division is being crippled. What reciprocal agreement can we come to on this?

Mr. Rice: The labor shortage makes it impossible to fill the both demands and one of the demands must be cancelled.

Mr. Ogawa: How does the pricing of farm products work?

Mr. Mann: It is not too accurate but we try to use a base market price and take 85%. The closest market price is at Denver. We check on the prices every week and if there are a lot of difference from week to week, we try to send out notices, but usually there aren't enough changes to send out these notices weekly. So for this reason, we make a report out every month. When prices for some commodities cannot be found, Mr. Rice and Mr. Rawlings together with others arrive at one certain price. We set our prices on first grade prices. The Steward will make the decision as to whether the products are up to first grade when they are delivered at the warehouse. Mr. Ito is in charge of this.

Mr. Rice: I saw the carrots stacked up in warehouse where they were dehydrating and spoiling. Do you have any vegetable rooms?

Mr. Wilder: Yes, we have two rooms, but they are used for other easier to spoil vegetables.

Mr. Ogawa: The main evacuee complaint is about those peas, beans, and melons. About 90% of them were cooked and thrown away. They are too dried up and hard. The Steward

pays something like 8 or 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ for these products which they throw away and that is serious. This is the big complaint and people remember these things.

Mr. Kamaya: This year the wrong kind of peas were planted. This year's peas were planted for feed crops but were delivered to Steward. The new land has a lot to do with the success of the farm and all these things must be taken into consideration.

Mr. Williams: Do you get your commodities from the Quartermaster fresh and in good condition?

Mr. Wilder: The commodities from the Quartermaster come in better condition than from the farm.

Mr. Mann: Once there was a carload of spinach which was so bad when it arrived here that we had to reject that carload. A carload bought in good condition but if they arrive in bad condition, we could send it back.

Mr. Rice: It would be much better if we bought the things that don't grow so well from the Quartermaster. For instance, melons should be bought from somewhere they grow better.

Mr. Williams: For instance, it takes 59 men to care for 14,000 chickens which gives each man about 237 chickens to take care each day. With 21 people working at the hog farm with 600 head of hogs, each person will be responsible for 30 heads of hogs.

Mr. Rice: There were 67,900 dozens of eggs delivered to Mess since January 1 to September 30, 1944. 24,607 pounds of poultry meat, 1,056 head of hogs slaughtered (250,000 pounds of dressed meat) and 905,223 pounds of vegetables delivered to mess operations. (Consumed on the project.)

Mr. Weston: How many eggs do you use in a month?

Mr. Wilder: Approximately 30,000 dozens a month.

Mr. Rawlings: How many eggs per day to a person do you use?

Mr. Wilder: In the summer when the prices are low, as many as 65,000 dozens were used, but when prices are high, about 30,000 is an average.

Mr. Ogawa: How can you set the prices on eggs?

Mr. Wilder: Perhaps the eggs are not up to the standard size,

but the freshness make up for that.

Mr. Mann: Do you include the transportation cost with food cost?

Mr. Wilder: Yes, but usually the commodities are shipped f.o.b. Hunt.

Mr. Kamaya: I would like to know who got the time schedule of the farm workers as 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. The young kids and women are really doing some hard work compared to these people who work inside. Whether it's dust or rain, they're always outside. When it rains while they're out in the field, they get all wet. We line up workers from 8:00 a.m. and get them to the Headquarters but this is same as going to work at 8:00 a.m. at the office. Transportation takes a lot of time. After gathering at the Headquarter, another 5 or 6 miles have to be ridden in order to get to the fields. Every nowand then machine breaks down. For instance, mess wants carrots and we also have to make a load for outshipment of carrots, but both of these demands cannot be met. This is something which we have no control over. There are a lot of things which we have to take into consideration.

Mr. Williams: People between the ages of 20 and 40 are very few here. That age group where they could do work are all out. This fact should be kept in mind when the agricultural program is being worked out.

Mr. Rice: First of all, we should decide whether we need any kind of agricultural program.

Mr. Mann: We should go ahead in determining or suggesting which crops we should delete or cut down.

Mr. Ogawa: I make a motion that we should decide on the manpower situation before we decide on the acreage of crops.

Mr. McIntyre: If labor was adjusted, would the labor problem be solved? Set a quota for each section.

Mr. Williams: This is true, but there is a case where we could get stenographers easily in the Ad Area but it is very hard to get the girls to work down at Block 22.

Mr. Mayeno: 746 acres were planted this year, but for next year eliminate some crops and decide the acreages according to what we can consume here and what labor we can get.

Mr. Rice: What policy in Washington is there in exchanging vegetables in 1945?

Mr. Rawlings: As far as I know, there won't be any exchanges in 1945.

Mr. Rice: The condition of the land will be easier to irrigate and will naturally have better crops. Since there won't be any out shipment to other centers in 1945, we won't have to raise so much of some crops.

Mr. Mann: We should concentrate on crops which can be stored and used instead of green peppers and other which cannot be stored for a period of time. These easily spoiled crops may be more advantageous when bought from the quartermaster.

Mr. Mayeno: The farm workers now being old folks about 60 years or young children, in my opinion, the relocation will not affect the shortage of farm hand so much.

Mr. Williams: The population in this camp now is 5,935 with 1600 out on seasonal leave. How many of these people will come back is a big question. Some say 400 and some say 500. According to our Director, no one center will be closed unless all of them close at one time, except in case where the function of the camp can no longer be carried out.

Mr. Smith: Figuring on the fact that only the old, infirmed, young people dependent on the old, physically handicapped people, skeptics, etc. will remain in this camp, we arrive to a conclusion that only 6,000 or 5,000 people will be here by June, 1945.

Mr. Rawlings: The big fact is the seasonal leave. If this seasonal leave continues, the number of people leaving the center at the peak season on the project, will leave only about 4,000 on the project. If this seasonal leave is eliminated, there will be at least a thousand difference in the population. I believe the Washington will not approve the poultry unit if we cannot raise enough grain to feed them. I doubt very much if we will have poultry meat if we don't have the poultry unit on this project.

Mr. Weston: I propose to have an agricultural program on a limited scale and if that is approved by everyone, I ask that the farm division submit their proposed crop and acreage report in line with the population of 5,000 and what the Steward Division could use.

Manpower Commission Meeting 10/20/44--7

This was agreed and approved.

A suggestion was made to go right down the list of farm crops and eliminate the ones we do not wish to raise on this project or get some reaction as to the worthwhileness of each crop. From the list of crops planted this year, the following were decided to be eliminated: Kentucky Wonder beans, soy beans, melons, beets, eggplants, celery, and cantaloupe.

Mr. Weston: I make a motion that the agricultural program for 1945 be reduced in care of the reduced population and take in consideration of the manpower and with exchange program being eliminated in 1945, raising only what we need on this project.

: I make a motion that the hog breeding unit be discontinued gradually.

The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Osawa: I make a motion that poultry function be continued on a reduced scale.

The motion was seconded and vote taken. 13 affirmative and two did not vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P. M.

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October 20, 1944

Y
Harry L. Stafford

Hunt, Idaho

Reurtt 18th on Council Resolutions. Please inform Council and Manpower Commission that supplying of services at relocation centers is joint responsibility of Appointed Staff and residents. No boudaries as to where one stops and other begins have ever been delineated and none are contemplated. Labor involved in supplying such services at the project cannot be limited to project boudaries. Our budget is based on needed equipment and supplies for providing fuel, provisions hospital facilities for the resident population, by and with the help of the residents in matters of transport and distribution. All services at the center are for the benefit of the residents. It is impossible to render these services without full cooperation of the residents and WRA will in future as in past rely upon and expect the evacuees to furnish labor and available skills for operations of basic community concern.

D. S. Myer

10-20-'44

Copy of Teletype Received

11:00 a.m.

/s/ H. L. Stafford

Project Director

C
O
P
Y

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

J 10²¹ 44 #2

October 21, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Y. Fujii
Chairman, Community Council

SUBJECT: PROJECT GYMNASIUM

Transmitted herewith is copy of an administrative order to Mr. W. E. Rawlings, Assistant Project Director in Charge of Operations. The order suspending construction on the gymnasium contemplates immediate steps to reorganize our efforts to complete the project if there is enough interest on the part of the community to see it through.

I recommend that the Council take such immediate steps as are necessary to arrive at a decision. The problem of recruitment should be approached from the point of view that carpenter helpers, plumber helpers, electrician helpers, etc., could make up the bulk of the crew. Where semi-skilled persons eligible for work on the gymnasium are now employed in minimum essential camp operations, such persons should be considered and their replacement accomplished in order to maintain the basic services. This point of view puts full priority on gymnasium construction. It will be noted that if work can be started at all there would be 60 days to complete the job.

The gymnasium is a very important part of the school athletic program and would figure prominently in the new Community Activities program, which will be developed in November. If we could look forward to reasonably good weather for the duration of the construction period outlined, the CA and school athletic programs could make excellent use of the gymnasium-building during the second semester, and continuously thereafter as long as the project remains open.

I shall look to the Council for full cooperation on this problem. We will be glad to assist in any deliberations or discussions relative to the gymnasium program.

/s/ H. L. Stafford

Harry L. Stafford
Project Director

attachment

J 10/21/44 #3

Conditions for the
Construction of the Project Gymnasium

1. Construction of the gymnasium must stop on October 24th and must be resumed not later than November 1st under the following conditions:
2. The gymnasium is to be completed and ready for use by the end of the year.
3. The Council or the residents must guarantee that the gymnasium would be completed on schedule, and
4. Show satisfactory recruitment of workers by November 1st before construction on the gymnasium can proceed.
5. A maximum of seventy men can be employed on the gymnasium construction.
6. Recruitment of workers must not interfere with labor essential to project operation.

Summary of Project Director's Memos to Rawlings on 10/20/44
and to Fujii on 10/21/44

J 10/23/44 Monday

1. Special Manpower Commission Meeting

Dan Williams read minutes of the last meeting.

Stafford: Here is a memo from the Community Council on 45 cent-meal. 12 to 14 cents is not available in cash, according to some report. They wanted a clarification on this point. Do you know, Nichols?

Wilder: It was originally set at 14 cents, but we're not following that. We buy what we can from the farm. The rest we buy in cash.

Nichols: I wonder if the group realizes why 45 cents was established? A certain amount is allotted to the whole project, and when divided it amounts to 45 cents per person.

Wilder: We run over sometimes and under sometimes. We'll average about 45 cents throughout the year.

Stafford: Talked to Myer on the phone about no center being closed first. No centers will be closed unless all centers are closed. However, if there is not enough cooperation to keep a certain center going, that center may have to be closed.

Stafford reads the council's resolution on manpower situation. He reads the answer. Hence the modification of the center closing statement. If no cooperation is available, then a center might have to close because it couldn't be kept going.

Stafford: Here is a memo on the gymnasium to Rawlings and to the Community Council. (Reads the memo.) Mr. Myer suggested that we finish the gym by January 1 or board it up. We should make a direct-line approach on this matter through the Community Council and the Manpower Commission. We want a plan which will finish the gym. We cannot let this thing go on except on a reorganized basis. Get windows in and then the heat. We want it finished to be available for use. We're not justified in putting more manpower or material in unless we get use. We're not blaming anyone. We have to take a definite approach, one or the other. I want to ask the Manpower Commission to plan. No minimum crew and a long-drawn out program for the rest of the year. I have a report that material have been taken and damaged at the onion cellar. We might have to have guard on the gym or lock the gym up. We planned two cellars and abandoned one.

Beattie: We can't complete the cellar because we can't get sufficient lumber to replace those that were stolen Saturday.

Stafford: If we don't have a solution to this vandalism

you needn't be surprised if I take a direct step. Rocks were being thrown through warehouse windows. It turned out that this fellow was entering the army.

I'd like to have the Manpower Commission get started on the gym situation, along with the Community Council. The estimate of the engineer section may seem too high, but they're the best estimate available.

Williams: The necessary recruitment from among those now working is necessary.

Stafford: It's a matter of community interest. If no interest is shown, there will be no success. If left to the usual procedure, filling of jobs cannot be done. This is a community matter, especially the Council. By cooperation, by the Community Council, I mean the canvassing of public opinion.

Weston: I think you have enough labor in the community to put this over. We've had difficulty in getting workers for Ward 6. The Community Council attempted to contact the families of patients. The stock answer was that the government had the responsibility to care for the patients. No nurses aides are on duty now. We may have to discharge some patients.

Stafford: If the gym is not of basic community interest, then we'll have to do without it. If we leave it willy-nilly the workers will have a comfortable place to work and they may not finish it.

Osawa: It seems that the Community Council is called upon when the administration is in trouble. Why not consult the Community Council before the trouble? Many matters have been ironed out between us.

Stafford talks back.

J.S. When you say that the Community Council or the residents must guarantee that the gym will be completed by December 31, do you mean that it must be entirely finished?

Stafford: Yes.

JS: Mr. Rawlings, are you willing to guarantee that the construction of the gym will be completed on time if the Community Council furnished the desired number of men?

Rawlings: No, even with a hundred men we can't guarantee that the gym will be completed.

Analysis: Stafford has certain ideas on which he seems to ^{base} ~~be~~

J 10/23/44 #1-3

his actions:

1. The workers do not want to finish the gym in a hurry.
 2. The Community Council and the residents have not shown sufficient interest in the gym construction.
 3. If the community shows more interest in the gym construction, it can be completed by the end of the year.
- con

His idea is to present the matter in the following manner: The Community Council either take responsibility for the construction of the gym by end of the year or else the gym should be boarded up.

He called the Manpower Commission in and told them just how he was going ahead with the gym construction. They were told, no construction. He has all the answers. He has shown that the Manpower Commission must take orders from him.

As Smith said, it was a rather frustrating situation, and only Osawa took the trouble to vent his indignation.

Kanaya said to me that it was not wise to oppose the administration. As long as we lived in the project we had to give in at times. Fujii was inclined toward the same view. He thought that it was best for the residents to attempt to finish the gym. I told him that Stafford required the Community Council to guarantee the construction of the gym by the end of the year. Fujii agreed that this was going too far. He said that he couldn't understand why Stafford was acting the way he was.

Osawa kept reminding Fujii and myself that the ideas expressed by Stafford was already expressed previously by Huberman. He blamed Huberman as much as Stafford for this trouble.

I was in such a mood that I didn't care what happened. If the gym were boarded up it would give me satisfaction because Stafford's method would have failed. On the other hand, I was concerned for the status of the Community Council, and also of the ultimate interest of the evacuees.

Kimi Tanbara came in and said that she told Huberman that the administration was responsible for the delay in the gym construction. Urakawa is also said to have attacked Huberman on the ground that the Community Council ^{wasn't} consulted even though the gym construction was a matter of joint participation.

2. Switchboard Operators

I met Barbara who is working with the Co-op. The other former switchboard operators are also working, even though they have not gotten their termination, as yet.

According to Barbara the girls were angry because the A.P.'s were put on before the girls were notified. Williams had promised them that they would be kept informed of any change.

At the meeting on Tuesday, October 10, Mrs. Roden talked on and on. She blamed everyone else but herself and Nichols for the trouble. She blamed the other girls for Harue's and Sumi's reluctance to stay behind. She warned the girls that if they walked off without two week's notice, she'd make it impossible for them to get jobs. The girls asked Mr. Ikeda of the Placement Office whether there was a blacklist. Mr. Ikeda told them there wasn't and not to worry about not being able to get another job. So they walked off their jobs.

Barbara thought that it was not necessary for me to do anything about the matter for the present. However, she said that she liked working on the switchboard and wanted to go back there if Mrs. Roden were fired.

J 10/23/44 #3 MANPOWER COMMISSION MEETING
in
Project Director's Office

October 23, 1944
11:00 a.m. - - - 12:25 p.m.

Those present: Mr. Nichols, Williams, Weston, Rice, McIntyre,
Wilder, Graham, Osawa, Yamada, Huberman,
Sakoda, Ikeda, Smith, Rawlings, Stafford,
Miller, Beattie, Doi, Kamaya.

Discussed: Council Resolutions
Gymnasium

A special meeting of the Manpower Commission was called to order.

Mr. Williams read the minutes of the special meeting held October 20. Mr. Rawlings, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Wilder asked for corrections, which Mr. Williams will have done.

In reference to the October 19 memorandum from the Community Council, Mr. Stafford was informed that the matter had been clarified in the previous meeting. Mr. Wilder explained that the maximum food cost of 45¢ per person per day was all available in cash and that it was used to buy what was available at the project farm.

Following points were then discussed:

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS: An answer had been received from Mr. Myer. After reading the Council's resolution and Mr. Myer's reply, Mr. Stafford made the following statement: "In modification of the statement that no center would be closed until all centers were closed, there seems to be a basic idea of operation around which budgets are made and public funds are available. Now, if no such cooperation can be obtained, then it goes without saying that, according to this statement, a center might have to be closed because there were not enough people to keep the project going."

GYMNASIUM: Mr. Stafford read memorandum of October 20 to Mr. Rawlings, and the covering letter of October 21 to the Council. Mr. Myer has notified the project that if the gym wasn't finished by December 30, it should be boarded up. The Council and Manpower Commission were asked to make a survey of community opinion and interest and to make a commitment by October 31. If recruitment was not sufficient to finish gym by the end of this year, this project will be eliminated.

Manpower Commission Meeting 10/23/44--2

Mr. Williams felt that the recruiting must be done by the evacuees now working on the gym. Mr. Stafford felt that inasmuch as this was a community matter, the Commission and particularly the Council should handle it. Mr. Weston thought that, even with the manpower shortage, there was enough labor to take care of building the gym, but that it would be hard for Placement Office to handle recruiting. He cited the case of Ward 16, TB ward at the hospital.

In reply to Mr. Sakoda's query as to the degree of completeness, Mr. Stafford said the gym must be ready for service by December 30.

Mr. Rawlings informed the group that the material and supervision were available for the gym, but it was the responsibility of the Council to see that the recruited labor complete the job on schedule.

Mr. Williams announced that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday at 9:00 a.m., same place.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

10-24-44

J 10/24/44 Tuesday

1. Gym Construction

I asked Betty what she thought of Stafford's memo. She said that she was in favor of having the gym completed. However, she didn't like the way in which the matter was presented and felt like opposing it. She thought that Fujii gave in to the administration and was responsible for his reputation as an administrative stooge.

Smith said that Huberman was concerned about the way in which the gym construction was being handled. Smith thought that Huberman was learning.

I talked to Kitayama, the Japanese editor, and took him a copy of Stafford's memo. I am making it a point to cultivate his good will. Kitayama said that he had talked to Ishimitsu, and he wondered whether it was possible to prevent the work from being stopped at this point. I explained to him why Stafford wanted the construction to stop. He was concerned about this point. I told him the conditions that Stafford had presented. His comments were:

1. The conditions were too strong. The Council could not guarantee that the gym would be finished.

2. Couldn't Stafford be made to take back his conditions. He said that if I talked to Stafford, he might learn something.

3. Does this order have anything to do with the results of the Denver conference?--especially with regard to the closing of the centers. (Fujii wanted clarification on this point, too.)

I told Kitayama that the WRA was thinking about closing the centers, but it wasn't known how soon this would occur. It was possible that the haste in completing the gym was due to the plan to close the center soon. However, it was not possible to establish a correlation between this project and the proposed closing of the center.

2. Special Council Meeting, 2:00 P.M.

Those present: Fujii, Mihara, Mayeno, Osawa, Chikata, Doi, Ishimitsu workers.

The two memos from Stafford to Rawlings and Fujii are read and translated by Fujii.

Fujii: There is a possibility of recruiting workers, but the Community Council cannot guarantee that it can be finished. But if Mr. Ishimitsu is willing to undertake this, then we shall be willing to back you up. Otherwise it will have to be abandoned.

Ishimitsu: Plank came with the news. I asked

J 10/24/44 #2-2

whether the ceiling could be left till later and the main hall could be put in shape to finish. Plank said that it couldn't be done. It would have to be completed.

Do they want us to abandon the gym because they don't want to use it?

Worker: But this is important for the high school. I suppose they do want it completed.

(There is general agreement on this point)

Ishimitsu: They're blaming the Japanese for its not being completed.

I was warned that I used people too hard.

Mayeno: Do you figure that you can finish this by December 31?

Ishimitsu: Absolutely not. It can't be finished with 100 men. Coordination of work is necessary. Electricians and plumbers work first, then carpenters, then painters. You can't work at once. I figured that the carpentry work could be done in six and a half months with the present work or perhaps in four and a half months. With increased men it could be done in three and a half months or so, perhaps. But that's carpentry work alone. There's enough lumber, probably.

Mayeno: Stafford is probably dissatisfied with the lack of cooperation. It might be all right if we show sufficient cooperation.

JS: Is Plank's estimate practical?

Ishimitsu: You can say that you'll ^{recruit}/workers, but you can't guarantee it.

(Mayeno agrees and so do the others.)

Ishimitsu: In Tule Lake they had 250 working at one time. Usually 50 or 60 at the least. It took one and a half year to complete the gym. We've made good progress. We're not working for regular wages with expert carpenters.

Mayeno: Stafford's thinking is being queered by Huberman.

Mihara: We should answer this frankly.

Fujii: We could say that we consulted the carpenters, that we'll help recruit the workers, and we'll do our best.

Osawa: Say clearly that we can't guarantee anything.

J 10/24/44 #2-3

Fujii: I think it's poor if the Council does the recruiting. If we recruit under Mr. Ishimitsu's name, the people will respond more. If the Community Council does it, we'll be misunderstood.

Ishimitsu: That is all right. That's all right. Work is stopped. The workers were asked to work elsewhere. But they decided to rest until it became definite that this work would continue.

Mayeno: Myer said that the administration should co-operate with the Council. We should ask that they discuss matters with us.

On the matter of brooms and buckets, 147 transfers and newly-weds should be furnished with brooms and buckets. Also 51 families who went out on seasonal leave and those who were not supplied initially. All these are to get priority. This was approved. But they claim that replacements cannot be made according to regulations.

Osawa: How about the doormats?

Mayeno: There are about 2000.

Osawa: At our meeting we were told that they wanted to clean up surplus material in readiness for closing of the center.

Ogawa: What language could we use?

Mayeno: We might say that we think we ought to have it. How about approaching softly because Stafford is sensitive now?

Ogawa: If I were to handle this, we can say that he shouldn't use threat. That it should be a give and take proposition. If they use "or else", we have to be anti-administration. There's no joint responsibility.

Fujii: We can say that we'll recruit workers, and that we are anxious to finish the gym. However, no guarantee is possible.

Osawa: The Red Cross could furnish material to send clothes to the war prisoners. (The idea is favored. Volunteer workers are anticipated.)

(T. Yamada, Executive Secretary of the hospital Koen-Kai was introduced.)

Yamada: No desk yet. No nurse on duty in Ward 16. We have one woman now with nurse's experience in Japan. We hope to get other women with experience. There are ways of approaching this. I hope to consult block

J 10/24/44 #2-4

residents first..

Mayeno: I think that Mr. Fujii should be in the Manpower Commission. He should know what's going on.

Doi: Stafford does not believe in cooperation. He's a dictator.

(Anger is growing)

Mayeno: This isn't self-government. They just tell us what to do.

Ogawa: Huberman and Stafford say that the Council has been evading the issue. As an example they bring up the moving of Block 22.

Fujii: I think that Stafford is being over-influenced by Huberman.

(Phone-call from Stafford)

Fujii: Stafford says that he'll modify his point about discontinuing the construction. I told him that if he discontinued construction, it shows lack of faith and it would not be possible for the Council to approach the residents. I told him that the residents were anxious to finish the gym.

Ogawa: My main point is that the administration expects us to educate the residents. But if Stafford can't educate the A.P.'s, how can he expect the Community Council to educate 7000 residents? I want to point out that it is because the administration does not educate the A.P. properly that there is difficulty and makes it necessary for the Community Council to be anti-administration. I want to put this point across the next time.

(Stafford called up a second time. He reported that Plank was sent to tell the gym construction crew that they should continue work. However, the workers had already gone home. Stafford said that he wished that Fujii had called up earlier to avoid the work stoppage. However, he wanted the reaction of the council to his memo. Some of the Community Council members said that this showed that Stafford was only bluffing.)

3. Domestic Service Issue

Mr. Yamamoto and I called our block meeting tonight to decide whether the co-op members in the block were in favor of establishing a domestic service department. About twenty persons appeared for the meeting.

Yamamoto explained that the domestic service was es-

J 10/24/44 #3-5

established to limit the amount of income of domestic workers to \$16 or \$19 plus clothing allowance. He did not say that this project was undertaken as an alternative to abolishing domestic employment entirely, since it could not be carried on under WRA regulations. I had to add this explanation later.

Hata, the block commissioner, stated that everyone was in favor of uniform wages. The problem was what the surplus fund should be used for.

Sakumoto, the ex-block manager, got up and made a speech. He said that private business was prevalent in the center. Oftentimes they were of service to the residents. One could not stick to regulations all the time. This matter should be left alone as at present. He said that a private contract should not be broken up needlessly.

Several individuals stated that they were in favor of Mr. Sakumoto's idea.

A number of comments which indicated the views of the residents in general were:

1. Don't deprive the workers of \$30 or \$40 a month because if you do you're going to be disliked.
2. If they are paid only \$16 they won't work.

A hand vote was taken, and everyone (except Mr. Sagami) was in favor of Mr. Sakumoto's idea.

When further comments on co-op problems were requested, Mr Sakumoto go up and spoke in favor of allowing private enterprise alone.

J 10/25/44 Wednesday

1. Manpower Commission Meeting

The meeting was held at the Project Director's office. Williams read the minutes of a past meeting and the last meeting.

Williams: Would you suggest, Mr. Stafford, that we discuss the gym, or shall we go on with the Engineer Section?

Stafford: The agricultural situation is important and I'm not sure how you came out on that.

The gym situation is important. Construction to cease, investigation, recruitment. Community Council informed that they were enthusiastic about finishing the gym. The stopping of construction, they thought, would throw added impediment. They asked for reconsideration and I agreed to leave the men. Mr. Plank and I discussed the matter and informed foreman to continue work.

It seems to me that the Manpower Commission should make a hasty survey to see where men can be pulled out. If we can get this recruitment underway, and have a full crew by November 1, work could be continued.

Williams: Next step/^{is} to go back to review the number approved and working in various sections.

(Stafford walked out of the meeting.)

Williams presents a summary of number of workers.

Weston: How about Community Activities?

Williams: 26 workers--about 20 men. Two men came in and asked for a job as electrician.

Ogawa: The group seems to be misinformed on the attitude of the Community Council.

(Stafford comes back and is informed that Fujii was asked to clarify the Community Council's position.)

Ogawa phones Fujii and tells him that Stafford has given a different impression of the attitude of the Community Council. Is the Community Council going to be responsible for the recruiting?

Stafford: What's the problem?

Ogawa: I got a different impression of the attitude of the Community Council than what you gave.

Stafford: What I gave was what I got over the phone.

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Plank: Mr. Beattie just reported that all men were back at their job.

Ogawa: The Community Council is not accepting the responsibility and cannot guarantee the number of workers or the completion of the gym. The residents could not give a guarantee. The Community Council has made some study; the Community Council is pretty sure that the residents want the gym and is in favor of having the gym completed as soon as possible. Same goes for the Community Council. There is a feeling, too, that it is the administration which is at fault in the gym not being completed on time. The administration pulled out workers for other work, crew was reduced, etc. If priority was given to it when manpower was not so short, it might have been completed. The two memos would create antagonism among the residents because it contains a threat. The Community Council feels it couldn't be identified with a recruiting program when it is put up on an "or else" approach. It was determined that the Community Council is "optimistic." It will do its best. The extent of participation is recruitment. The Community Council would not take an active part. Mr. Ishimitsu would call for the workers.

Stafford: Are you giving me that in writing?

Ogawa: Most of it. Mr. Fujii said that he is asking the block commissioners to put this matter before the public, which was not decided yesterday. The Community Council is unanimous that the closing down casts doubts as to sincerity in wanting to complete the gym.

Stafford: The Community Council is the official representation. If it wants to serve notice that it won't participate, then we won't have any more problem. It is an "or else" proposition.

Rawlings: I wonder if that's what Tom meant. The approach would be set by the Community Council for recruitment through the foreman. Is that what you meant or did you mean that the Community Council wouldn't do anything toward recruitment?

(JS: Explains the stand of the Community Council as:

Community Council and the workers are willing to cooperate to complete the gym as soon as possible. However, on consulting Mr. Ishimitsu, the Community Council was told that it was not possible to guarantee that the gym would be completed by the end of the year.

Stafford: I am not going to deal with the carpenters. If someone is going to take issue with an "or else" attitude, that's all right with me.

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Huberman: Shouldn't the Community Council get popular support on an issue of this sort?

Ogawa and Sakoda: Not if an ultimatum is served on the Community Council.

....

Stafford: I consulted Plank and we decided that the work could be done. We'd like to see the gym finished. You have a hostile attitude all over camp--lack of understanding. Mr. Myer is sending a letter on this that unless it is finished, it should be boarded up. We are not going to leave government property in the hands of a lot of hostile residents.

(He makes remarks about the stolen property.)

JS: If you want to make use of the gym, it might be done by finishing part of the gym first.

Plank: What he proposed was that the main hall be completed and no work be done on the wings.

Stafford: If you're going to make any use of it, you practically have to finish it. We're not interested in that type of thing. I don't see any room for a compromise.

Plank: It can't be heated without insulation of the wings.

Huberman: Is it the feeling of the Engineering Dept. that if the required number of workers were available, that would be a guarantee?

Stafford: There would be no community support.

JS: Suppose the Community Council guarantees and fails.

Stafford: I've operated on a principle of goodwill. I'm not going to close the gym because a door knob is missing.

Rawlings: Some sort of function on December 31 should indicate completion.

Stafford: You can start recruitment now. That will be sufficient assurance. We'll be reasonable about the state of completion. With the assurance, I would like sufficient community support. If they go out and get something started, I think it will be alright.

In view of things, we have every assurance that the gym will be completed by so and so.

Myer's word for assurance is commitment.

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Ogawa: (Explains joint responsibility.) The Community Council received an ultimatum. This does not jibe with the idea of joint responsibility. If there is joint responsibility, the Community Council should have been consulted.

Huberman: The Council was approached once before on "Build the Gym Week." There was no response. We should blame the Community Council for lack of support.

Osawa: It's the method of approach that was wrong in both cases. Carpenters weren't consulted.

Plank: They were consulted.

Osawa: If you present it as how shall we work this out, you would have gotten more response.

Stafford: You're being sentimental. Let's be practical. I refuse to quarrel with you. I don't feel too bad about being criticized.

Osawa: I suggest that you say that the Washington will stop construction. Then ask the Community Council what they can do.

(Laughter)

JS: How about Ad. assurances?

Stafford: Ad committed itself on that point. We gave priority to the gym. If it can be finished and men have to be squeezed out of some department, etc. the resources of the Ad. will be available.

Don't spend any more time talking of the diplomacy of the project director. Accept that as a fact. I'm not going to change the verbiage or attitude. This is the only way to get this done.

I want the Community Council to find out what we can do about this thing. Unless the Community Council says this, this and other thing, that there is assurance that the job can be done and recruitment can be done, it won't be satisfactory. I don't care what you say to me.

Graham: The Japanese editor didn't know about the "build the Gym Week."

Stafford: We should concede that that thing went too far.

Rawlings: One other angle--the budget. Budget for the gym ends on December 31.

J 10/25/44 #1-5

Ogawa: It's a matter of whether the Community Council will go all out for it and lose whatever prestige it has. Or the whole thing might be blamed on Washington and budgetary limitation.

Plank: 25 or 20 carpenters are available. 4 electricians and 3 plumbers are needed and also supervisors.

Ogawa: Is there any assurance that a man can get his job back when the work on the gym is completed?

Stafford: Some jobs may be abolished. That has to be considered.

Williams: I think that could be taken care of.

JS: Can the number of men be adjusted?

Stafford: It's up to Plank and Ishimitsu. If they agree on more men, then there's nothing to hinder. But I'm going to object to people working less. We've got to contend with large number of workers who were put on to keep them occupied. We outgrew that a long time ago.

Rawlings: What sections are going to be taken up next?

Stafford: You should state just how many acres you're going to recommend. I want a recommendation from the Manpower Commission.

Weston: We asked the Agriculture Section how many acres would be necessary for the population of 5000.

Williams: Next topic: Fire Dept. and Motor Transport.

Meeting Adjourned.

2. Telephone Operators

Williams called me up and said that he received the termination notices from Mrs. Roden. He said that there were various reasons stated on the termination notices, and he wanted me to come over to his office. I imagine that Mrs. Roden asked for work suspension for the girls.

I saw Williams later. He said that he took the matter directly to Nichols. He was afraid that he might have made enemies with Mrs. Roden, but he thought that Nichols would be willing to drop the matter, as I had suggested to Williams before. I told Dan that I didn't want to cause more trouble than was necessary.

3. Bullsession, Niver on

I talked to Mr. Niver who wanted to know whether it would be safe to employ Shosuke Sasaki as an English teacher. I told him that he was temperamental, but he was probably all right as a teacher. He said that a Washington head wanted him to fire two poor English teachers. He said that things couldn't be done in that way. One relocated and the other is planning to relocate. Niver, in other words, was not willing to use force.

He asked when Father Joe was coming back. Father Joe should be back on Thursday.

He said, "I guess I'll go and see him. He extended an invitation to me to drop in whenever I wanted to. I'm really proud of that. I learned so much there once before. You know, I told someone that I was at Reverend Kitagawa's and he said, "Well, how do you rate?"

4. Closing of the Center

Mrs. Izuta's reaction to Stafford's announcement as to the closing of all centers: The people are all going to be thrown out soon with only three months sustenance. They fear that no center will be left for those unable to relocate.

J 10/25/44 #5

MANPOWER COMMISSION MEETING
in
Project Director's Office
October 25, 1944
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Those present: Messrs. Stafford, Huberman, Nichols, Smith Rawlings, Williams, Folsom, Weston, Wilder, McIntyre, Graham, Plank and Rice, representing the Administration; and Messrs. Sakoda, Ikeda, Ogawa, Doi, Chikata, Yamada, Mayeno, Osawa, representing the Evacuees. Mr. Kamaya was absent.

Discussed: Completion of Gymnasium by December 31, 1944

The meeting was called to order and minutes of the meeting of 10-18 were read by Mr. Williams. Mr. Stafford asked that it should be made clear that his statement on page 3 regarding the closing of Minidoka seeming unlikely because of its farm, location, labor demand area and so forth, was his personal opinion.

Mr. Williams read the minutes of the October 23 meeting. Mr. Stafford called for a correction of his statement concerning Mr. Myer's message. The statement made by Mr. Myer was that the pronouncement at the Denver meeting that "no center would be closed until all centers were closed" should carry the proviso that this would be possible providing we get enough cooperation on the part of the Evacuees to keep the camps open.

The minutes of the two meetings were approved as corrected.

GYMNASIUM

Mr. Stafford reported Mr. Fujii had voiced council opinion that the plan to cease work on the gym from October 24 to 31, while a survey was made of possibilities for finishing construction by the 31st of December, would impede the council's efforts to recruit workers -- that it would be difficult to explain this work stoppage in the face of the December 31 deadline. Mr. Stafford had therefore agreed that work should continue, and Mr. Plank stated that the men were at work this morning. Mr. Stafford said Mr. Fujii felt the council was optimistic about completing the gym. The Manpower Commission will study the possible recruitment of labor for the gym from other activities.

As an example, Mr. Weston inquired the number of employees which will be released from Community Activities, and it was stated that approximately 20 male employees would be available.

Mr. Ogawa took exception to the statement that the Council was optimistic about completing the gym. He further stated that the Council was not accepting responsibility in the matter, and felt it should not be expected to guarantee anything--either getting people to work or completing the gym on a certain day. The Council feels that majority opinion in the community is in favor of finishing the gym, and that there is also a majority opinion in the community that it is the Administration's fault the gym has not been completed long ago: because of delay in getting started, taking men off the gym to work on AP housing, reduction of the crew a short time ago, failure to give the gym a priority when the manpower shortage was not so acute, and so forth. The Council feels that Mr. Stafford's message, as relayed through the Irrigator, will create antagonism since it contains a threat. It is an "or else" proposition. Mr. Ogawa said that he and Mr. Sakoda had been delegated to draft a reply to Mr. Stafford's memo to the Council. Also, the Council feels that community reaction to their group is such that they should not be identified with recruitment. The Council would rather work through Mr. Ishimitsu, getting him to present the recruiting program to the people. In talking to Mr. Fujii this morning, Mr. Ogawa learned he was asking the block commissioners to put this matter before the people.

Mr. Stafford replied that the Administration deals with the Council as a representative of the people. How the Council chooses to deal with the problem of presentation is their concern. This is openly an "or else" proposition, now. If no guarantee is forthcoming from the Council, the gym will be crossed off as an activity, immediately.

Mr. Rawlings inquired whether Mr. Ogawa's statement should be interpreted as meaning that the Council was not going to do anything toward the completion of the gym.

Mr. Sakoda stated that the Administration's claim is that sufficient enthusiasm has not been shown so far to warrant the completion of the gym. Construction is to cease unless the Council guarantee completion of the gym by the end of the year. Neither the Council, nor Mr. Ishimitsu, is willing to guarantee this, no matter how many workers are to be had.

Mr. Rawlings asked whether the judgment of the Council and/or Mr. Ishimitsu was that it was possible to finish the gym by the end of the year.

Mr. Sakoda replied that no decision was reached, except that the Council would do their best to have it completed as soon as possible.

Mr. Stafford reiterated his desire for a guarantee. This is not to be a matter for argument. He understood Mr. Fujii to hold an optimistic view and had reconsidered the decision to cease work between October 24 and 31 on the strength of that. The Council is an officially organized group representing the people. If the residents tie the hands of their representatives, that is their privilege. The Council is set up as an agency between the Administration and the residents, and that is the way negotiations are going to be carried on.

Mr. Huberman pointed out that if the majority of the residents are for the completion of the gym, it does not seem logical that Council backing for the project should make either the Council or the recruiting program unpopular with the residents.

Mr. Sakoda said that the guarantee was what worried the Council. He inquired also the basis of fixing December 31 as the date on which the construction should be completed.

Mr. Huberman explained that the crews required and the number of man hours necessary to finish the work had been computed by the engineering department.

Mr. Sakoda quoted Mr. Ishimitsu as saying most of the workers were not highly trained and he felt he could not guarantee finishing the gym by December 31.

Mr. Huberman stated that expert supervision will be furnished for all workers. This was taken into consideration in figuring out the schedule.

Mr. Stafford said that in setting up this schedule he felt the opinion of Mr. Plank and the engineering department to be competent.

Mr. Stafford again stated that the deadline set was intended to be an "or else" proposition. Such a time limit is not at all unusual on construction jobs. All of the APs including the Project Director, are anxious to see the gym finished. If the Council cannot "spark" this; if we have an attitude of insufficient interest in finishing the gym, we will eliminate the whole thing: it is as simple as that. We are beginning now to clean up certain economic problems here, and we are not going to place the decision on disposition of government property in the hands of a disgruntled populace. The gym is just one of many problems, and may as well be the first one to be solved. The gym is at a good stopping place right now, in terms of protecting material already expended in its construction.

There was a discussion as to what constituted "completion" of construction, whether all fixtures must be in, whether the wings would need to be completed, and so forth. It was decided that since the design was utilitarian, it was not likely there was much that could be called surplus in its construction, and that such things as completing the wings, completing the insulation and lining of the ceiling, and so forth, would be necessary for the economical heating, and safe use of the building.

Mr. Huberman inquired whether recruitment of workers by the Council would be accepted as a guarantee.

Mr. Stafford said no, since there must be a community backing of the project. If the Council has to report that the community is in a bad mood, the Council will not be blamed, but matters will be put upon the basis of a guarantee from the Council.

Mr. Sakoda raised the question of what would happen if the Council guaranteed the finishing of the gym, but at the end of the year there was still a month's work left to be done.

Mr. Stafford answered this by asking if his attitude on anything had ever been found to be completely unreasonable. He stated that his basis of operation had been good-will, that he has given the benefit of the doubt wherever possible. His position has been completely stated in the memo to the Council. The history of work-accomplishment on the project made this kind of ultimatum necessary.

Mr. Rawlings suggested that a practical designation of "completion" might be that some function could be held in the gym on December 31.

Mr. Sakoda again said that the word "guarantee" was a major hindrance, and asked whether a "gentleman's agreement" could be made between the Administration and the Council. If the Council gives "assurance" and says they are "confident" the gym will be fairly complete by the end of the year, would this be acceptable.

Mr. Stafford replied that all agreements between the Council and the Administration are entered into in writing. After survey of the situation if they can "assure" the Administration, this will be what we want. We are trying to stir up interest by our ultimatum. If a survey could be made of the situation, recruitment started, then at the end of the month, we will have developed a picture of the situation. The Council can say, "In view of the following facts, we believe we can make a guarantee," and the guarantee will be an "assur-

ance" in writing.

Mr. Ogawa brought up the point that in clarifying Evacuee-Administration responsibility, Mr. Myer had spoken of joint cooperation and joint responsibility, and that on the heels of this, the first action is the ultimatum issued by Mr. Stafford. Mr. Huberman reminded Mr. Ogawa that this is not the first approach made to the Council on the gym, and cited as an example the "Build That Gym" Week. It was agreed that in this instance there had not been sufficient preparation time, but that in this latter case there was time for organizing the program.

Mr. Sakoda inquired what guarantee of cooperation will be made by the Administration.

Mr. Stafford said that his statement in the memo that a "first priority" had been put on the construction of the gym automatically committed the Administration to full cooperation. He stated it was his desire that the Council make a full survey of available labor, and based on their survey make the statement they feel the job can be completed by the specified date, and that only this kind of statement will be acceptable.

Mr. Rawlings pointed out that the construction of the gym will not appear in next quarter's budget, and that for this reason also it is necessary that construction be finished.

Mr. Ogawa stated that he felt new points had been brought out in this meeting which would warrant another Council meeting for discussion.

There was some discussion of possible labor sources. Mr. Plank stated that 20 - 25 carpenters would be available after completion of the onion cellar. These would be in addition to the 18 carpenters now at work on the gym. There are about 4 electricians and 3 plumbers available in addition to competent supervision. Painters will all have to be recruited. In discussing possible transfers from other activities, Mr. Ogawa asked whether a man who transferred, could, after two months, go back to his old job.

Mr. Stafford stated that he thought employment could be assured, although not necessarily on the same job, since there is a possibility that through the activities of the Manpower Commission, some jobs are going to be done away with. However, care should perhaps be exercised to see that seasonal workers returning do not take up all other available jobs. Some workers are unable to go out on seasonal leave because of family responsibilities, and they should be taken care of first if the

Manpower Commission Meeting 10/25/44--6

job on which they happen to be working is liquidated.

Mr. Sakoda asked whether more than the estimated 70 necessary workers would be furnished, if after work got under way it has been seen that perhaps 80 would be necessary.

Mr. Stafford said that if more men were needed, in the judgment of those supervising the gym, more would be provided, but that it was his intention to take the gym out of the "job-padding" category, and make the force working there one of full efficiency.

It was decided that a report of anticipated acreages for next year's agricultural program would be presented at the next meeting, having been worked out by Mr. Rice and Mr. Wilder.

The Fire Department, and Motor Transport and Maintenance Section were announced for survey at the next regular meeting of the Manpower Commission, scheduled for next Wednesday, November 1, 1944, at 9:00 a.m.

J 10/26/44 Thursday

1. Council Meeting on Gym Construction

JS explains progress thus far.

Mihara: Why should the Community Council take the responsibility? Why does Stafford bring up something so difficult?

Chikata: There is a difference between Plank and Ishimitsu's estimate.

Mihara: Why not let Plank go ahead?

Chikata: Weston said that we should say we'll do our best. Do until December 31 and let it go at that.

Osawa: We have no experience in construction.

Mihara: We can't give in to Stafford. We'd have no status.

Mayeno: They closed Community Activities in a dictatorial fashion. The self-government doesn't mean a thing.

Ogawa: I brought the matter of joint responsibility and approach. Stafford's attitude is that this Community Council is afraid of the boilermen crowd. He feels we need a shot in the arm. He doesn't know that the majority of the people are anti-Stafford.

Mayeno: If he's going to bring matters which he can't do, we might as well not have the Community Council.

Chikata: Let Plank take the responsibility.

Fujii: Ishimitsu said that we should try our best. Residents want the gym. The Community Council can say we do not like Stafford's approach. If Plank's figure is correct, we can say we'll recruit workers. If he wants to close it, let him close it.

Osawa: At some centers they volunteered and finished it on short order.

Doi: At Manzanar they finished a judo-dojo.

Osawa: I think it was at Jerome.

Ogawa: We have to have the gym. But if we finish it in spite of the ultimatum, our appointed personnel friends ~~will be placed in a poor position.~~
will be placed in a poor position.

Fujii: We can say that we are doing it only because the residents want the gym.

J 10/26/44 #1-2

Osawa: Blame the WRA for not finishing.

Mihara: How about taking over everything?

We can try it, and see how far we can go. This is the prevailing opinion. Fair agreement reached here.

Ogawa: How about seniority on jobs?

Agreement on this point.

Doi: Stafford puts up a show in front of the appointed personnel. What happens? Mc.Intyre may stop the convoy. A chain is put across the road. He says he's going to check up each truck. I told him that he won't be able to use my drivers. Ray Olson said I was right and took the chain off. Here is the story of driver's reaction to McIntyre. A meeting was held to discuss whether they should continue convoy driving. McIntyre insisted on eight hours. The workers say that they won't work more than eight hours.

Mihara: Wilder insisted on eight hour work. Seven high school students are quitting but only a few are to be added.

Fujii: This matter of eight hour work may have to be allowed to explode. I think Huberman is pushing this. Stafford knows that eight hours cannot be enforced.

JS: How about publicity?

Fujii: Ishimitsu-san says that he'll undertake the project if he gets support from the Community Council. We can make an appeal to the Block Commissioners. The recruitment is not a problem.

Mihara: How about asking for overtime?

Discussion on theft.

Ogawa: Government property theft is common among the appointed personnels, too. It's to be expected among the evacuees.

Anecdotes of theft.

Discussion on Community Activities. Fujii blames Huberman for the trouble. JS and Osawa stated that the drastic step was Stafford's idea.

C.A. discussion: Why wasn't the Community Council consulted?

JS called Kimi Tambara in to have Fujii give the publicity on the gymnasium.

Fujii:

1. Ishimitsu said he was willing to go ahead.
2. Council offered Ishimitsu his help.
3. Council got Ad. priority for this project.

Question: Should the ultimatum be included?

Fujii: Put the good part of the memo in.

JS: How about this?

1. Gym has to be completed by the end of the year.
2. Workers, residents, Community Council are willing to help.
3. The Administration is willing to increase the number of workers to 70 and will give construction full priority.
4. Workers needed.

Ogawa: How about other foremen working under Ishimitsu? The gym will be important for basketball, public meetings, shibai, movies, and dances.

Mayeno: Stafford knows that it won't be finished. He's trying to hurry us along.

General opinion: Let Stafford board it up, if he wishes to do so.

Fujii: How shall we ask clarification on the Community Activities matter?

J 10/27/44 Friday

1. Block Commissioners--Community Council Joint Meeting

Fujii reads and translates into Japanese the two memos from Stafford concerning gym construction. He used the work kyoroku for guarantee. He made it clear that Stafford required: 1. commitment 2. recruitment.

JS explains:

....

Tambara: Hosho cannot be taken as kyoroku. (cooperation) Hosho (guarantee) is still hosho.

JS: The Community Council does not intend to guarantee the completion of the gym. We can furnish the necessary amount of manhour.

Osaka: Do they want the Council to act as a recruiting agency?

Fujii explains the "Build the Gym Week." No response was shown from the residence so the Community Council was suspected as not showing concern for the gym. He went on to explain that they felt that they couldn't finish the gym without resident support. This is Stafford's method of finishing the gym by the end of the year.

Osaka: Did he say that carpenters weren't working as carpenters? Where did he get that idea....? If they treated us fairly and paid say \$19, couldn't they recruit workers themselves?

Doi: Many people are not working at their regular task.

Tambara: Will they get priority on their old jobs?

Fujii: We are negotiating for that.

Fujii: If we get other carpenter crews, we may not have to recruit more than about 30 workers.

X: There is such a thing as shokunin katagi (artisan spirit). Other crews may not help on someone else's project. There's a difficult emotional matter involved.

Fujii: We need so many workers. It might be best to contact seasonal workers personally. If this happens this problem can be expected to be solved. It seems best to finish the gym and make use of it. At least there's no loss even if we attempt this project.

Kikoshima: How about getting the Placement Office to do the recruiting. The Community Council has no responsibility. Let them take the responsibility. They should prepare the

J 10/27/44 #1-2

gym for our use. We didn't ask to come here. They're going to bring more problem to the Community Council. They don't pay much, and they don't pay overtime. We don't know how the war is going to end, but we should demand what we should.

Mayeno: According to Mr. Kikoshima's stand, they have the responsibility. If the stand of the residents is the same as yours, we'll do that.

Osaka: Ishimitsu said that he couldn't calculate the hours with amateurs.

Kikoshima: The building of the ad. apartments took four months and the Caucasians complained. The labor cost only \$200. I told them that the government was spending too much money. It's all right to get workers.

Fujii: The Community Council is not going to guarantee anything. We'll carry on until December 31. We can't take more responsibility than that. We'll only support this matter. If Stafford wants to board the gym up, that's all right. If we object outright, we don't want it said that we lost sight of the resident's benefit by becoming emotional.

Kikoshima: I guess that's about all you can say. I can't even get PTA delegates.

Ogawa: Stafford's approach gets us mad. But we need the gym. We can expect a better issue.

Hara: You might be able to get Shiota-san to work as a foreman.

Kikoshima: He worked his crew too hard. People don't want to work for him.

Fujii: Any other opinion? If not, ask those back on seasonal to work as carpenters.

The matter is put over amiably.

Yamada, the Hospital Koen-kai Executive Secretary is introduced.

Yamada reports: There is complaint that there are few nurses for the T.B. ward. There are one hakujin missionary and several others. The patients say that there is no one on duty at night. I asked Mrs. Oba, who was working with the Japanese Red Cross for 10 years. She says that she'll work even in the T.B. ward. It was decided that she would be asked to work as a nurse's aid, but be allowed to wear a white cap because of her experience.

They are still short of nurse's aids. 12 student nurse's aids are returning to school, and Miss Rappaport wanted more workers right away. I want to ask you to have girls who returned from work to go to the hospital.

J 10/27/44 #1-3

We asked Dr. DeHaan for better food for blood donors. We got it, too. I was asked for oyatsu (snacks) in Ward 14.

The kitchen workers asked for consideration, probably meaning the extra pay. They seem to be expecting it.

Dr. Sekiyama complained that guests staying at the doctor's quarters were walking around naked, and he wanted it stopped.

Oba-san said that work in Ward 16 was difficult and Caucasians did not come to the Ward. She asked for special treatment for Ward 16 workers. How about making it four shift and six hours of work. I expect to negotiate on this matter.

Mr. Nomura complained that the work was too difficult. I told him to wait until I finished with Ward 16.

Somebody told me that this matter is a responsibility of the WRA, and that it should be left up to the Caucasian workers. But they won't take care of the T.B. patients either.

Family members will help with paralytics, but not in Ward 16. I hope to approach family members of the T.B. patients. There is no place to take a sun bath. If members of the family are willing to help, I hope to help them make a sun room.

Chikata: Nowadays they say that a sun bath is not good for those who are sick.

Kumata: I think that the construction of a sun room should be left to the Community Council to negotiate with the WRA. Otherwise, we'll be running the whole hospital by ourselves. They're responsible for the patients as long as they put us in here.

Discussion of the wooden shoes problem.

There was also discussions on eating in the hospital mess, lack of chief cook, and the 26 patients in Ward 16.

Kikoshima: Domestic workers: Advantage is not in the wage primarily, but in being able to go to town. Why not have such persons work as nurse's aids, but give them passes to go to town. Domestic servants are necessary because both husband and wife try to work.

Kimura: Mrs. Henstead (missionary) is doing a lot for the patients in Ward 16. The Koen-kai might give her some appreciation.

Ogawa: I handed my resignation in in May. I am going to quit at the end of this month, so if you know anyone who can take my place, please let me know.

2. Convoy Drivers' Conflict

Doi told me the following version of the convoy drivers' conflict. Several persons have asked me what became of the night drivers or the convoy drivers.

McIntyre came to replace Connor this summer, and Doi has complained more than once that McIntyre tried to change matters or be too strict. In the matter of issuing parts, for instance, he tried to be strict. More recently, he changed the number of workers at the gas station.

The matter which precipitated the present trouble was McIntyre's insistence on transferring Sato, the night dispatcher from 5-12. He seemed to be somewhat of a troublesome nature. According to one report he was a drunkard. Doi warned McIntyre that without Sato the dispatching work could not be carried on. Evidently a Caucasian was going to be placed in Sato's place. Doi warned McIntyre to put the Caucasian in, but not to take Sato off the job. McIntyre went ahead and did so just the same.

The night Sato was displaced, the night drivers asked to be transferred to the day crew. McIntyre asked some on the day crew to serve at night. Friction ensued. The workers got together and decided that they wouldn't work more than the regular hours between 8-5. Their stand was that they were working hard enough as it was now. If they started to work at eight and quit at five the convoy system would virtually cease.

Last night the workers had a meeting, and they called McIntyre in. According to Doi, McIntyre was pale and shivering in his boots. The boys demanded under what conditions he expected the boys to work. McIntyre gave his conditions. The boys asked questions, and McIntyre gave in, saying that he did not know what to make of it. The net result was that no change in working conditions was made, and the boys went back to work this morning.

3. Gym Construction

According to Mayeno, Plank told him that if he were going to the joint meeting he should try to get 150 workers for the gym. This seems to show that Plank is anxious to have the gym completed, even if more men were put on the crew.

After the joint meeting some block commissioners and councilmen went to look at the gym. I talked to one of Ishimitsu's foremen, and he seemed willing to attempt to finish the gym by the end of the year. We agreed that we couldn't do more than to try our best. At four o'clock the door of the gym was locked, and all the workers went home. I was a little surprised. I felt that these were the things that upset the administration.

J 10/27/44 #5

COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICE
Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

October 27, 1944

Mr. H. L. Stafford, Project Director
Hunt, Idaho

Subject: Project Gymnasium

Dear Sir:

This is in response to your Memorandum of October 21, 1944, relative to the Project Gymnasium.

The Community Council has held three special meetings wherein the substance of your Memorandum has been given full consideration.

The Council has gone on record, unanimously, as regretting and resenting the fact that you have chosen to approach the Council on this matter with an "or else" ultimatum. We are told that in the meeting of the Manpower Commission held October 25, 1944, you emphasized the fact that your memorandum to the Council actually was intentionally an ultimatum seeking a guarantee, "or else", and that you felt that you would "just as soon board up the gymnasium right now" as the easiest method whereby to discharge your administrative responsibilities. We fail to understand the psychology which prompted you to adopt such tactics in dealing with the Council; surely you are not so naive as to believe that either the Council, or the evacuee residents as a whole, can best be moved to action under the brunt of dictatorial ultimatums?

The teletype from Mr. D. S. Myer, National W.R.A. Director, received October 20, 1944, in response to our request for clarification of the limits of evacuee responsibility in the maintaining of project services and operations, placed emphases on "joint responsibility" and "full cooperation". The Council believes that Mr. Myer does not contemplate a peculiar sort of "joint responsibility" or "full cooperation" wherein the Project Director elects to approach the Community Council and/or the evacuees with coercive, threatening methods which obviously can but create antagonisms.

Further, we do not believe that W.R.A. officials in Washington, D. C. expect any community government organization to include as its function a direct participation in

October 27, 1944

the recruitment of personnel, or to be made to give guarantee to the administration regarding the completion of any work project within a stipulated period.

The Council has made an investigation of evacuee opinion respecting the gymnasium, has found that it is virtually unanimously in favor of an earliest possible completion of the building, and therefore has decided to inform you that both the residents and the Council are desirous of this, and that the Council is taking steps to attain completion of the gymnasium for use on December 31, 1944.

We might make the comment, incidentally, that majority opinion among residents clearly indicates a resentment towards the Administration which is blamed for the fact that this Project's gymnasium is at this late date still in the process of construction, while gymnasiums at all other Projects (according to popular understanding) were completed and in use since long ago. The delay here is being attributed to the Project Administration's lack of sincerity in the matter of evacuee welfare, as manifested, specifically, in the tardiness with which the construction was commenced despite having plans, materials and abundant labor available during the early months of the project, in the substantial reduction of evacuee workers assigned to gymnasium construction via terminations ostensibly made necessary by budgetary limitations, and in the diverting of the reduced number of evacuee workers from the gymnasium to the construction of resident housing for the appointed personnel and for other work.

The evacuee residents generally, and naturally the Council, too, are desirous and anxious for the earliest possible completion of the gymnasium, but the eighteen evacuee workers presently employed on the construction, under Foreman Ishimitsu, are even more so. This is understandable. Mr. Ishimitsu and his men have a keen sense of pride of accomplishment, in addition to the cognizance of the benefits to the community.

The Council will participate in the recruiting of additional workers for gymnasium construction, via the "Irrigator", and via Block Commissioners who were called to a joint meeting held specifically for this purpose on October 27, 1944, and in consideration of probable best results, Mr. Ishimitsu and his men are to "spearhead" the recruiting campaign. In spite of the manpower shortage now existing here, therefore, the Community Council now feels reasonably certain that the gymnasium will be completed for service, or in readiness to hold a function, on December 31, 1944.

We are confident that the foregoing will result in the

October 27, 1944

recruitment of a satisfactory number of workers (to augment the present crew and those crews which are to be transferred to the gymnasium from elsewhere) sufficient to accomplish the calculated total 20,608 man hours of labor. The Block Commissioners, as a group, have accepted the undertaking of approaching potential gymnasium workers within their respective blocks, particularly from among evacuees returning from seasonal leaves. Our confidence in the success of the undertaking has been, of course, enhanced as a result of the joint meeting with Block Commissioners held today.

The assurance with which we expect a successful completion of the construction is predicated upon several factors, as follows:

- (1) The estimate of required man hours as stated in your memorandum of October 20, 1944, to Mr. William E. Rawlings, is adequate.
- (2) The required man hours of work can be distributed among 70 workers over a period of 47 working days.
- (3) If it should later become evident that additional manpower might be required over and above the originally estimated figures, approval for additional workers can be gotten from the Chief Construction Engineer.
- (4) It will be possible to recruit workers "without interference with crews of labor essential to camp maintenance and operations".
- (5) The Engineering Section will be given cooperation as indicated by the term "full priority".
- (6) The period of construction will be blessed with reasonably good weather and free from disrupting incidents.
- (7) The Engineering Section will provide proper supervision.
- (8) Workers who obtain transfers to the gymnasium construction for the temporary period will be granted seniority in the matter of returning to their former, regular positions.

Since the Council's primary concern is the obtaining of a completed gymnasium, we are not making further issue of the manner of your approach. Instead, with results in mind, we are

Mr. H. L. Stafford--4

October 27, 1944

soliciting the residents in accordance with our own ideas of maximum possibilities.

Assuring you of our continued cooperation, and with hopes that the gymnasium will be completed sufficiently early, and to our mutual satisfaction, I am

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Y. Fujii

Y. Fujii

Chairman, Community Council

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Y

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

J 10/27/44 H7

In reply, please refer to:

Office of Project Director

October 27, 1944

Mr. Y. Fujii
Chairman, Community Council
Minidoka Relocation Center
Hunt, Idaho

Dear Mr. Fujii:

To provide further clarification of the total problem of completing the gymnasium project, I submit a memorandum under date of October 25 to Mr. William E. Rawlings, Assistant Project Director in Charge of Operations, and a memorandum in reply which has been prepared by Mr. C. E. Plank, Senior Engineer and approved by Mr. Rawlings. I felt that a pre-arrangement of labor placement would answer many questions concerning supervision.

It seems important at this time that this type of question be settled in advance, in order to avoid delays and misunderstandings once construction is actually begun.

Very truly yours,

/s/ H. L. Stafford
Harry L. Stafford
Project Director

C
O
P
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Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

October 26, 1944

To: W. E. Rawlings, Project Director in Charge of Operations
From: C. E. Plank, Senior Engineer

For your information and approval and for the purpose of avoiding any misunderstanding, I submit the following operating program in connection with the proposed accelerated work program at the project gymnasium.

It shall be the responsibility of the Engineering Section of the Operations Division to furnish all necessary supervision for all phases of work pertaining to this project, to formulate and execute all plans and to provide all necessary tools and materials, and to provide adequate transportation for all workers connected with this project.

It has been determined by the Engineering Section of the Operations Division that all Caucasian and Evacuee superintendents, foremen, and supervisors be placed under the direct supervision of Mr. R. W. Hampton, Assistant Construction Superintendent, he in turn to be advised and to work in close cooperation with the Construction Superintendent and the Senior Engineer.

It is further determined that the plumbing and plumbers be under the supervision of Mr. V. C. Ballantyne, Utilities Operations Superintendent.

All electrical work and electricians be under the supervision of Mr. V. V. Howell, Electrical Foreman.

All painters to be under the supervision of a painter foreman to be selected at a later date.

All concrete work to be under the supervision of Mr. Ota, Utilities Supervisor.

The 18 carpenters that are employed at the present time are to remain under the supervision of Mr. Kichisaburo Ishimitsu, Senior Construction Foreman.

The first additional 18 carpenters are to be placed under the supervision of Mr. R. R. Crowson, Construction Foreman.

The second additional 18 carpenters are to be placed under the supervision of Mr. Wayne Reeder, Construction Foreman.

In the event that additional carpenters report for employment, it is proposed that they be equally divided between the above mentioned carpenter foremen.

Signed /s/ C.E. Plank
C. E. Plank
Senior Engineer

/s/ W. E. Rawlings

C
O
P
Y

Minidoka Relocation Center
Hunt, Idaho

October 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: W. E. Rawlings, Assistant Project Director
in Charge of Operations

SUBJECT: Proposed Plan of Work at Gymnasium

The purpose of this memorandum is to request a report from your division outlining a program of work in the event the completion of the gymnasium project is undertaken. It is anticipated that we will need clarification concerning the question of transportation of workers, a distribution of supervision and the allocation of workers under responsible supervisors.

Inasmuch as construction practice as carried on in most places recognizes approximately twenty men as the maximum number which may be efficiently supervised, I assume your division will want to set up allocations along those lines.

I should like immediate response to this request, in order that I may provide the Council with a copy of the proposed plan of work, that they may have such plan during the earlier discussions and consideration of the total problem.

Very truly yours,

Harry L. Stafford
Project Director

J 10/28/44 Saturday

1. Bullsession

It is becoming rather significant as to which people are invited to our bullsessions. Father Joe does the inviting usually, and for one thing his whims affect the choice. The choice, however, seems to be definitely based on certain considerations besides personal like or dislike.

Oftentimes the younger set is invited, but yesterday only the older men group was there. The discussion centered around the Adult Education forum program. Those present were:

1. Father Joe
2. Tom Ogawa
3. James Sakoda
4. Elmer Smith
5. Jack Chikata
6. Iwao Matsushita
7. Dick Niver

The first four are regular attendants at these sessions. Father Joe has been inviting Jack Chikata recently. His intellectual capacity is not quite up to that of the others. Also, Chikata has the tendency to think too well of himself and to irritate the general populace, although he gets along with the A.P.'s. However, Father Joe seems to feel that Jack is a handy person to work through, and he has been getting him to do work in the education field, especially for the Adult Ed. program. Jack, even though without particular ability, is a member of a number of influential committees:

1. Council
2. Chairman of the Education Committee
3. Chairman of the Adult Education Committee
4. Co-op
5. Manpower Commission

Matsushita is a quiet, scholarly sort of person, and he has very little interest in politics. Although his judgment is considered sound, he is usually not called into the meetings, although, he would not be barred at any time. Since the discussion centered around the Adult Ed program and Mr. Matsushita was Mr. Niver's "star" teacher, it was very appropriate that he was present.

Niver's presence at the bullsession shows that he has been accepted sufficiently to be invited without fear. This was Niver's third bullsession. Niver is quick to accept any suggestion or criticisms made by a member of the bullsession crowd. He feels that he owes part of his success to his willingness to get evacuee help.

2. Bullsession on Adult Education Forum

Niver had received Washington instructions to proceed with a forum program to discuss relocation. At this meeting I suggested that we steer clear of the topic of relocation and stick to innocuous subjects. I also suggested that the forum be held on a block, rather than section, basis, and to begin by feeling out the attitude of existing fujinkai. One program was put over successfully on the subject of first aid, except that Niver had to ask Ishii to translate and then refuse him later. The speaker was Mrs. Richards from the

hospital. Niver asked Huberman who could be used as a translator. Huberman suggested K. Ishii. Niver approached Ishii. Later, however, when Niver attended a bull-session and announced that Ishii had been selected as translator, the group screamed an opposition. Niver then good-naturedly asked what he could do to remedy the situation. It was imperative, it was pointed out, that Ishii not be allowed to be connected with the Adult Education program. After some thought the excuse was cooked up that a translator with some hospital experience was necessary, and Jack Chikata was asked to do the translating. Niver had to approach Ishii with sweet words and tell him he was sorry, etc. All the time, Niver said, Ishii probably knew that Niver was lying. This was one of the two evacuee enemies that Niver had made, he admitted. The other was Fujitomi, who attacked his whole Adult Education program.

Because the Community Activities was being halted, Huberman asked Niver to step up his Adult Education program. Huberman asked that a list of speakers and their topics be published. Niver approached me, Chikata, Father Joe and others on this matter. I told Niver that publishing the list was out of the question. The public must not get the idea that they are being forced to listen to forums. Also, I had in mind keeping Niver as far away as possible from Huberman. I warned him not to get mixed up in the C.A. deal in any way. Niver said that there was a rumor that he was to take over C.A. since Roth was being transferred to the Relocation Division, but that he would not become involved in the C.A. at all. Father Joe and others agreed with my stand. Niver, however, said that he had to maintain good relationship with Huberman, and he said that he wanted to have the list of speakers. Father Joe suggested that a tentative list be drawn up to satisfy Huberman. Niver said that if Huberman asked the list to be published, he would put the Assistant Project Director off by saying that the Adult Education Committee opposed such a move.

Through free discussion a list of speakers and a list of topics which would not cause resentment were made. Most of the speakers, it was decided, should at first be evacuees. The problem came up what would be done if Huberman offered to be a speaker. The group agreed that the program would be ruined if identified with Huberman, and so Niver promised to put off Huberman as a speaker. Even in the mind of this group Huberman had become a persona non-grata because of his reputation among the residents. Huberman had asked several weeks ago to be allowed to come to Father Joe's place, and Father Joe had turned him down.

3. Niver on Liberal A.P. attitude

After the bullsession I had the opportunity to talk for a while with Niver about the attitude of the A.P.'s.

J 10/28/44 #3-3

He tried to explain his own stand, saying that in order to be useful he had to remain on good terms with Huberman and Kleinkopf. He said that whenever he could, he gave his superior credit for even his own ideas. Huberman had already told him that he had a good job in the short time that he had been here. I told him that I agreed with him perfectly. In order to be useful to evacuees he had to maintain his own standing among the A.P.'s. I was surprised because he had grasped the essence of how to get along in the project in so short a time.

Niver said that Elmer Smith was inclined to irritate other A.P.'s even when the occasion really did not demand it. I agreed with him again, saying that Elmer might be excused on the ground that he was emotional. I said that he was probably considered an evacuee rather than a Caucasian by some A.P.'s

Niver related the mistaken notion that Chapman took. Chapman is a very recent arrival on the project (Oct. 10, 1944). He took sociology in New York, and he was thinking of going into the UNRA in China. When I first met him and I told him that there were Caucasians on the project who did not like Japanese, he looked surprised and said that he did not see why they worked for the WRA.

Niver related that Chapman recently approached him and said:

"Well, I've finally arrived."

Niver asked, "What do you mean?"

Chapman said: "I've been called a Jap-lover." He continued: "I'm going to fight those with race prejudice."

Niver commented that he thought Chapman had taken the wrong attitude.

The other person we commented upon was Huberman. We both felt sorry for him because he was not able to maintain a good reputation with the evacuees.

J 10/30/44

1. Convoy Drivers' Conflict with McIntyre

Sato, coal crew member, gave an account of the convoy drivers' conflict at the bullsession last night. He gave it somewhat as follows:

McIntyre was making a lot of changes. These changes made it difficult for the evacuee foremen. Doi, for instance, used to be in charge of both the drivers and the laborers. Now he is placed in charge only of the laborers. The matter which "set the fuse" was the addition of two A.P.'s to the night crew. Sato, a temperamental, "tough" Nisei, was relieved of his job as night dispatcher, and transferred to the day crew. Another change was that of requiring a close check of each trip ticket. This seems to have been done to watch the consumption of gasoline, which had risen recently. The drivers then gathered and decided that they were going to refuse to convoy workers. One of their arguments was that the drivers were being required to work more than eight hours at present. McIntyre was called in and asked how he meant to run things. Sato's reinstatement in his old position was insisted upon on the grounds that he knew his job well. McIntyre was jittery and gave in to this demand. He also promised that a schedule would be worked out whereby the drivers would not have to work more than eight hours a day.

2. Gym Construction

The major part of the bullsession was concerned with the matter of gym construction. Ogawa read the memo he was going to send to Stafford. Father Joe thought that it would be better if the part giving the assurance were separated from the part protesting against his method. Smith was afraid that Stafford might turn down the offer of the Community Council and go ahead and board up the gym. I maintained that this was a war of nerves, and if Stafford wanted to board up the gym, it was all right. I could not see that much good could come out of the whole affair. Jean Kanno felt that the Community Council ought to give an outright guarantee and get along with the construction of the gym. The other girls thought that if the Community Council did this the Council would seem like a "yes-yes" man. One fellow stated that he did not think that the Council was very popular among the residents anyway.

An attempt was made to fathom Stafford's mind. Some of the more unanimous decisions made were as follows:

Stafford believes that Council has not been very cooperative with the administration. He has as basis for this the following instances of non-cooperation:

- a. Munition Depot recruitment
- b. Build the Gym Week
- c. Domestic Service (more attributable to the co-op).
- d. Block 22 moving

Stafford believes that the Council has been non-cooperative because it is afraid of the rabble-rousers, who constitute a small percentage of the resident population.

(The Council has been shirking its responsibility and letting the administration take the burden of having to issue administrative instructions.) -- a personal thought.

This morning it was discovered that only one electrician had been added to the gym construction crew. This prodded Fujii into action and he decided to send out memos to block commissioners to ask them to send in the names of those they had contacted to work on the gym. By late afternoon, however, George Shimizu of the Placement Office announced that he had placed two electricians, 2 plumbers, and seven carpenters.

Ogawa's memo was still under discussion. C.T. Takahashi came in and stated that he thought that Stafford would turn down the memo. He asked that the protest be placed before the assurance. He wanted Ogawa to ignore Stafford's ultimatum, and he had to tell C.T. that Stafford had plainly stated that he meant the memo as an ultimatum. C.T. Commented on the Council and said that the only ones willing to stand up against the Council were Ogawa, myself, Doi, and Osawa. The rest talked loudly in front of Japanese, but couldn't say a thing in front of Caucasians.

Ogawa and I were saying that if the recruitment didn't proceed fast enough it would be best to tell Stafford that the Community Council refused his ultimatum or to delay the memo to Stafford a few days in order to obtain more workers. But Ogawa learned from a round about source that Stafford wanted the memo right away, and a copy was sent up to him.

I talked to Kitayama about the slow recruitment. He was sorry because he wanted the gym built. I said that his article on the gym construction was a good one.

We talked about the Council and agreed that it didn't have much status within the center. He said that Fujii had gotten a poor reputation. He thought highly of Ogawa and was sorry to hear that he was quitting his position as Executive Secretary. He was afraid that the Council wouldn't be able to keep on the right track without Ogawa.

Rumor on the gym: The administration wants it finished so that soldiers can use it after Japanese are forced out of the place.

3. Betty M. on future

Betty, slightly "Japanesey" girl, gave the following views:

1. Wishes to return to Seattle after the war.
2. War hysteria will be forgotten soon.
3. War in Europe will not end this year.
4. Japan is strong enough to win the war.
- r. The war should end next year.

J 10/30/44 #4-3

4. Betty M. on the Council

The Council should have a show-down with the administration. It hasn't proven to the people yet that it is for the people.

J 10/31/44 Tuesday

1. C.A. Program and Huberman

I wrote a memo to Huberman in the morning and went to see him in the afternoon. In the memo I showed that I had a program ready for the use of the recreation hall. Huberman read the memo and said that I could have the use of the hall if I would allow children from nearby blocks to use it if they so wished. This seemed to be a stipulation from Washington. He got the key to the rec hall from Miss Fite, and we got into his car and went to look at Rec. 12. There were a few equipment in the room, and Huberman was infuriated because Roth had been told that all C.A. equipment should be turned in.

Huberman said that he was thinking of sending out questionnaires (check lists) to find out what sort of program the people desired. I advised him against the use of a questionnaire, giving the following reasons:

1. Very little response from residents.
2. Response would not be general.
3. People would look with suspicion upon any program emanating from the administration.
4. Since the closing of the C.A. had been done in a high-handed manner, people would be wary of becoming involved with the new program.
5. People were afraid that the questionnaire might be used against them especially if they signed them.

Huberman made the statement that he discovered that "normal stimuli" did not produce normal responses. He was surprised at what I told him, and declared that the people here were psychotic.

I also told him:

1. Any program pushed by the administration was likely to be suspected.
2. No AP could approach the people in general and get a good response, not even Elmer Smith.
3. All contacts with evacuees had to be personal.
4. That it was desirable to work through a group, rather than to attempt to force a program through by ~~myself~~ oneself.

Huberman said that he had a reputation as a dictator and that anyone who dealt with him would be considered a stooge. (Father Joe had drummed this into him, the former said.) He argued all along, but finally asked how he might approach the matter of sounding out resident opinion. I told him that he could have the Council organize an Advisory Council. He had two fears:

1. That the Council would not take action soon enough.

2. The old C.A. group would get back into power.

But he said he would call up the Council anyway, and he did. Ogawa answered the phone and confirmed my statements. An Advisory Council was desirable and the Community Council could appoint it.

Huberman seemed relieved and went as far as to make the following statements:

The Council, perhaps, should go ahead on its own and investigate community sentiment.

The Advisory Council could be retained to guide both the new C.A. supervisor from Chicago (yet to come) and the C.A. programs (to watch as a watch dog.)

He also wanted to know if it were permissible for this Advisory Council to meet with him until the new C.A. supervisor arrived.

He had also made the statement that he had the interest of the residents at heart, that he was doing his best, and that the people should know who their champion was.

At one point he praised me by saying that I should be earning his salary ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ or else he should retain his salary because he has enough sense to listen to me.

He left things in my hands, and I said that I would see what I could do.

In the evening I got together with Father Joe and Tom Ogawa to discuss this problem. We agreed that for the sake of the C.A. program we should form a good Advisory Council. We were not quite sure how this Advisory Council would be formed, but we went ahead and made a list of possible members to serve on this council. It included:

Shig Osawa
Renso Enkoji
a girl
Frank Fukami
Tom Ogawa
Paul Tambara
Kintaro Takeda

We wanted a committee of men with good community standing, especially because the closing of the C.A. had made the reorganization difficult.

We were greatly concerned about the low prestige of the Council on the project. I was of the opinion that one reason for this was that the Council has not shown in the past that it was for the people and not the administration. (According to Kitayama, there were rumors that someone in the

J 10/31/44 #1-3

Council had given the administration the go-ahead signal with regard to the closing of the C.A.) Father Joe wanted to know whether there wasn't any way in which the Council might raise its status. I suggested a show-down with the administration. We hit upon the plan of protesting against the firing of the C.A. staff without reason and to have this protest written up in the Irrigator. All of us thought that this would ~~work out~~ be a good idea. Ogawa said that he would work on a memo to Stafford the next day.

Father Joe stated that he had collided with Huberman on his plans of making use of the recreation halls. Huberman wanted to have a leadership training program, and to impose a program of recreation. Huberman was not in favor of turning the rec. halls over completely to the various blocks. Father Joe insisted upon "natural" leaders, because of a lack of qualified men.

J 10/31/44 #2

COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICE
Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

October 31, 1944

Mr. H. L. Stafford, Project Director

Hunt, Idaho

Subject: Project Gymnasium

Dear Sir:

Supplementing our letter of October 27, 1944, regarding the subject topic, we now attach hereto for your reference, an interim report on the progress of the recruitment of evacuees for work on the Project Gymnasium.

The eleven newly recruited workers, according to the Placement Office, were assigned during Monday, October 30, 1944. We believe the recruiting is progressing satisfactorily, as indicated by the first day's results.

This Office yesterday prepared a mimeographed memorandum (in the Japanese language) addressed to Block Commissioners, wherein we outlined available up-to-date information regarding the recruiting of evacuees for gymnasium construction, and requested their full cooperation, as a follow-up to agreement reached in the Special Joint Meeting of Councilmen and Block Commissioners on October 27, 1944. The memorandum requested Block Commissioners to hand in to this Office a list of the evacuees contacted in the respective blocks.

It appears to us, at this writing, that evacuees returning to the project from seasonal leaves will likely be by far the best potential source of new workers for gymnasium construction. These people are returning to the project almost daily, currently, in groups, and will continue to return during probably the next several weeks or more. Evacuees returning from seasonal leaves are, as a rule, not inclined to accept project employment promptly after their arrival here, since they ordinarily desire a period of rest to recuperate from their strenuous labors in the fields, and since, with newly earned funds, the remuneration from project employment is by comparison not attractive. One of our more serious problems, therefore, is how to persuade these people to accept project employment promptly.

The situation above described is likely to result in a delay in recruiting, and although the number of newly assigned

Mr. H. L. Stafford--2

workers as of November 1, 1944, may not be impressive, we are confident that additional workers will be obtained during the ensuing several weeks' period so that ultimately the 20,608 man hours of labor can be furnished prior to the end of the year.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Y. Fujii

Y. Fujii
Chairman, Community Council

Attachment

October 31, 1944

MINIDOKA W.R.A. - - PROJECT GYMNASIUM
REPORT OF PROGRESS IN RECRUITING EVACUEE WORKERS

	Carpenters	Electricians	Plumbers	Painters
Employed as of Oct. 24, 1944	19	0	0	0
Transferrable from other construction on Nov. 1, 1944	0	3 or 4	3	0
Transferrable from other construction on about Nov. 15, 1944	20 to 25	0	0	0
Newly recruited as of 5:00 p.m., Oct. 30, 1944	7	2	2	0
<hr/>				
Total required (suggested)	38	10	10	10

Community Council
Minidoka Relocation Project

COPY

5 10/31/44 #3 COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICE
Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

October 31, 1944

Mr. H. L. Stafford, Project Director
Hunt, Idaho

Subject: Suspension of the Community
Activities Program

Sir:

We refer to your announcement published in the October 21, 1944, issue of "The Minidoka Irrigator" concerning the total suspension of this project's Community Activities program, effective today, for a temporary, indefinite period, pending reorganization.

The Community Council, in special meeting held October 26, 1944, made a comprehensive study of your above action, and decided unanimously to take issue with you on this matter. The Council intends this memorandum to acquaint you of its thinking, in terms of what it believes to be your error in having exercised your authority as Project Director in such a high-handed, tactless manner, and in having committed yourself to such a rash action as will doubtlessly make the achievement of your plans unnecessarily difficult.

We have been under the impression that community government here was conceived, adopted and organized on the premise of joint participation by evacuee residents and the appointed staff in considerations of matters of community concern. This conception of the scope of functions of a Community Council, is apparently shared by Mr. D. S. Myer, National WRA Director, who has placed emphases on "joint responsibility" and "full cooperation", in his teletype of October 20, 1944. Of all issues, then, this issue, as it is concerned solely with the recreational activities of evacuee residents, appears to us to be one which should unquestionably have been considered jointly by representatives of the administration and of the evacuees, prior to your having taken any such drastic, arbitrary action. We might observe that the Council has of this date received no correspondence whatsoever from the administration on this matter.

The fact that you have terminated, as of today, the employment of the entire Community Activities' staff including twen-

Mr. H. L. Stafford--2

ty-six evacuee members, is important in its implication that you are not in accord with the policy of employer/employee relationships as set up by the W.R.A. in Washington, D. C., and that you deny the "rights of labor". We might remind you that Washington has approved our Fair Employment Practice Board which is ready to conduct hearings when a worker submits grievances, subsequently to make recommendations to you, the final authority. Washington wanted us to establish such procedures for the channeling of worker's grievances (refer to administrative manuals), surely with the intention that workers would be accorded a fair hearing?

Before any employee here can be terminated, an adequate justification, in writing, must be submitted to the Fair Employment Practice Board. In this instance, you have ordered the wholesale termination of an entire Section of workers, with the implication that their services were unsatisfactory; you have, at least, urged these terminated workers to find employment in other fields, which surely is a broad enough hint that their services are not required in a newly organized Community Activities Section. What justifications were given for these terminations? What recourse have these workers? An appeal for a hearing before the Fair Employment Practice Board would be ridiculous inasmuch as you, the final authority, chose to order the terminations.

Under these circumstances, the Council believes it has the prerogative to insist upon a further clarification of the justification for the terminations, also the prompt establishment of some special means whereby the terminated workers may have opportunities to present their cases in response to what charges the administration may care to make. Justice would demand that they be given a chance to clear their names.

The Council wishes to point out that it does not necessarily take issue with you, on what you may be trying to accomplish. Perhaps, in ordering the reorganization, you may have had the best interests of the evacuee community at heart. We do, however, take issue with you on how you have approached this matter.

The steps you have thus far taken, having been both sudden and drastic, as a natural consequence, have had grave repercussions in this community. The residents are variously disturbed, skeptical, bewildered, apprehensive and on the whole, above all, antagonistic. The news article was variously interpreted, adding to the confusion.

The damage has already been done. We seriously doubt that the administration can now obtain cooperation from evacuee residents sufficient to reorganize Community Activities

Mr. H. L. Stafford--3

promptly on a satisfactory basis.

We are human, and have contemplated the idea of remaining on the side-lines, to be mere spectators to the interesting struggle of the administration in its attempt to enlist the support of a people now unreceptive. The Community Council, however, having as its primary concern the welfare of the evacuee population, in this instance the earliest possible re-establishment of the best possible Community Activities program, can not do else but to approach you with the following recommendations:

- (1) Arrange for a prompt "above-the-table" investigation of whether the termination of the entire Community Activities staff was in order (we have insisted upon this in the foregoing), and,
- (2) Subsequently ask for an all-evacuee Community Activities Advisory Board or Recreation Committee to which you will delegate the responsibility of determining what activities the evacuee residents desire, and how they should be approached.

Respectfully yours,

Y. Fujii, Chairman
Minidoka Community Council